

1 The behaviour of nitrogen during subduction of oceanic crust:
2 insights from *in situ* SIMS analyses of high-pressure rocks

3 B.J.R. Harris^{a,*}, J.C.M. de Hoog^a, R. Halama^b

4 ^a*Grant Institute, University of Edinburgh, James Hutton Road, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, EH9 3FE*

5 ^b*School of Geography, Geology and the Environment, Keele University, Keele, Staffordshire, United Kingdom, ST5*
6 5BG

*Corresponding author: b.j.r.harris@sms.ed.ac.uk

7 **Abstract**

8 Understanding the Earth’s geological nitrogen (N) cycle requires an understanding of how N be-
9 haves during dehydration of subducted crust. We present the first *in situ* measurements of N in
10 silicate minerals by secondary ion mass spectrometry, focusing on high pressure rocks representing
11 subducted oceanic crust. We investigate the distribution of N between mineral phases, and com-
12 bine analyses of N with other trace and major elements in order to constrain the behaviour of N
13 during fluid-rock interaction. The data confirm that white mica (phengite, paragonite) is the pri-
14 mary host for N, containing up to 320 $\mu\text{g/g}$, whereas minerals including clinopyroxene, amphibole
15 and epidote contain $< 5 \mu\text{g/g}$ N. Chlorite can also contain N (up to 83 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and may play a
16 previously unrecognised role in subduction zone N cycling. Bulk rock N concentrations estimated
17 from mineral N concentrations and mineral modes are consistent with N concentrations measured
18 by bulk combustion, which confirms that most N is hosted within silicate minerals and not along
19 grain boundaries or in fluid inclusions. Bulk rock N contents correlate with K_2O ($\text{N}/\text{K}_2\text{O} = 19.3 \pm$
20 2.0). Using $\text{N}/\text{K}_2\text{O}$ ratios and the average K_2O of altered oceanic crust, the flux of N subducted in
21 oceanic crust is estimated to be $0.6 - 2.4 \times 10^{11}$ g/yr, which is consistent with but at the lower end
22 of previous estimates. The data were also used to investigate the behaviour of N during fluid-rock
23 interaction. Open system fluid-rock interaction modelling was used to model the evolution of N,
24 B and Li contents during fluid-rock interaction in phengite from a garnet-phengite quartzite. By
25 comparison to data for B and Li, the phengite-fluid partition coefficient for N was estimated to be
26 0.1–1.5. Separately, the growth of paragonite during fluid-rock interaction in a blueschist was shown
27 to sequester N from phengite and limit bulk N loss to the fluid. The stability of white mica during
28 fluid-rock interaction is therefore critical in controlling the behaviour of N. Nitrogen addition from
29 sediment-derived fluids appears to be an important process in subduction zone rocks. Mafic crust
30 can act as a sink for this N if white mica is stable. This work provides the first natural constraints
31 on the fluid-mineral partitioning behaviour of N at subduction zone conditions and emphasises the
32 complexity of N mobility within subduction zones, with redistribution between different phases and
33 lithologies being important.

34 1. Introduction

35 The Earth's atmosphere is presently composed of 78% nitrogen and is essential for the habit-
36 ability of the planet. There is considerable debate over the long-term evolution of the mass of N
37 in the atmosphere (e.g. Mallik et al., 2018; Som et al., 2016; Wordsworth, 2016; Barry and Hilton,
38 2016; Busigny et al., 2011; Marty et al., 2013; Som et al., 2012; Berner, 2006; Avive et al., 2018) and
39 it is therefore necessary to quantify the flux of N between the surface and deep-seated reservoirs,
40 primarily the mantle. Subduction zones are the primary locations where N from the Earth's surface
41 is returned to the mantle, and therefore studies which explore the behaviour of N during subduction
42 are of importance to resolving the long-term N cycle. Previous studies of N in subduction-related
43 rocks have focused on whole rock analyses, with a particular focus on N isotopic work (e.g. Epstein
44 et al., 2021; Halama et al., 2010, 2014; Bebout et al., 2013; Busigny et al., 2011, 2003a; Halama
45 et al., 2017). Suites of subducted metasediments have shown little N loss up to 90 km depth in
46 cold subduction zones (Busigny et al., 2003a; Bebout et al., 2013), but substantial losses in warm
47 subduction zones (Bebout and Fogel, 1992; Haendel et al., 1986; Mingram and Bräuer, 2001), with
48 differing implications for the recycling of N over Earth's history. Basalts and gabbros representing
49 oceanic crust ($\sim 1\text{--}30\ \mu\text{g/g N}$) have lower N contents than sediments ($\sim 100\text{--}2000\ \mu\text{g/g N}$) but the
50 mass of subducted oceanic crust is an order of magnitude higher than of sediments. Considering av-
51 erage values for oceanic crust and sediment N concentrations, their contributions to the subducted
52 N flux are comparable, although oceanic crust is less well constrained (Halama et al., 2010; Busigny
53 et al., 2011; Li et al., 2007). Overall uncertainty in the global N recycling flux is on the order of
54 50–100% (Johnson and Goldblatt, 2015) due to the variable N contents of subducted lithologies
55 and the lack of understanding of the processes controlling N recycling.

56 Nitrogen in rocks is primarily hosted as ammonium (NH_4^+), which substitutes for potassium
57 and, to a lesser extent, sodium and calcium (Honma and Itihara, 1981). Micas are the dominant
58 host of K in metasediments, and correlations between bulk K and N contents have been used to
59 confirm that white micas are the main host for N (e.g. Bebout et al., 2013; Busigny et al., 2003a).
60 High N contents of up to $1700\ \mu\text{g/g}$ have been measured in micas from metasediments (Busigny
61 et al., 2003b, 2004; Sadofsky and Bebout, 2000). For metabasic rocks that contain white mica,

62 correlated bulk N, Cs and Ba concentrations also suggested that N resides in the mica (Halama
63 et al., 2010). However, a weak correlation of N with CaO + Na₂O in mica-free metabasic rocks
64 may suggest that in these lithologies, N is hosted in Ca- and Na-bearing minerals (Busigny et al.,
65 2011).

66 Nitrogen is regarded as a moderately fluid-mobile element. Several studies on rocks that have
67 undergone extensive fluid-rock interaction have shown up to 60% loss of bulk N in metasomatised
68 rocks compared to the country rock, in response to white mica dissolution or recrystallization during
69 fluid-rock interaction (Halama et al., 2017; Epstein et al., 2021). Experimental data on fluid-mineral
70 partition coefficients for N at subduction zone pressure-temperature conditions are sparse and values
71 are not consistent between studies (Table 3, Pöter et al. (2004); Förster et al. (2019); Jackson
72 et al. (2021); Li et al. (2015)). There is agreement between these studies that increasing pressure
73 leads to NH₄⁺ becoming more compatible in both phengite and biotite, compared to an aqueous
74 fluid, because NH₄⁺ is thermodynamically favoured over N₂ at higher pressures (Förster et al.,
75 2019; Pöter et al., 2004; Jackson et al., 2021). The effect of temperature is smaller but increasing
76 temperature leads to NH₄⁺ becoming more compatible in phengite, compared to an aqueous fluid
77 (Förster et al., 2019; Pöter et al., 2004). and less compatible in biotite (Förster et al., 2019; Jackson
78 et al., 2021). The reasons for this are not fully understood. NH₄⁺ is overall more compatible in
79 biotite than muscovite over a wide range of P-T conditions, with values for $D_{\text{NH}_4^+}^{\text{biotite-muscovite}}$ from
80 1.5–4.2 (Sadofsky and Bebout, 2000; Busigny et al., 2004; Duit et al., 1986; Honma and Itihara,
81 1981; Pöter et al., 2004; Förster et al., 2019).

82 *In situ* data can provide new constraints on the partitioning of N between different minerals,
83 reveal heterogeneities or zoning, and can be combined with thermodynamic and geochemical mod-
84 elling to understand the behaviour of N during metamorphism and fluid-rock interaction. Previous
85 *in situ* analyses of N contents were limited to a small number measurements of large white mica
86 and biotite grains in metasediments by Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy with a 100 µm
87 beam size (Busigny et al., 2003b,a, 2004). Few studies have compared N contents of minerals to
88 other major or trace elements, or to textural features of the samples. *In situ* analyses of other
89 fluid-mobile elements (e.g. B, F, Cl, LILE) in subduction-related samples have been successful in

90 constraining the inter-mineral partitioning behaviour of these elements, understanding their be-
91 haviour during metamorphic reactions and fluid-rock interaction, and constraining the amount of
92 recycling of these elements into the mantle during subduction (e.g. Marschall et al., 2006; Urann
93 et al., 2020; Halama et al., 2020; Debret et al., 2016; Bebout et al., 2007; De Hoog et al., 2014;
94 Clarke et al., 2020). In this study we aim to: 1) explore the residency of N in different minerals
95 in a suite of high pressure rocks representing formerly subducted oceanic crust; 2) combine *in situ*
96 measurements of N concentrations with other trace and major elements to explore the behaviour
97 of N during metamorphic fluid-rock interaction. Improved D values and mineral residency of N
98 will allow more detailed modeling of N behaviour during subduction and eventually more accurate
99 models of the long-term global N cycle in deep time.

100 **2. Geological background and sample descriptions**

101 *2.1. Lago di Cignana, Italy*

102 At Lago di Cignana, NW Italy, meta-ophiolites of the Zermatt-Saas Zone (ZSZ) are tectonically
103 juxtaposed with a coesite- and diamond-bearing UHP metamorphic unit, the Lago di Cignana Unit
104 (LCU) (Groppo et al., 2009). The LCU comprises eclogites, alongside metasediments including im-
105 pure marbles and quartzites, and calcschists. Peak metamorphism of the LCU occurred at ~ 600 °C,
106 2.7–3.2 GPa (Groppo et al., 2009; Reinecke, 1998), and was dated to 44 Ma by zircon U-Pb (Rubatto
107 et al., 1998). The ZSZ comprises mantle serpentinites and eclogitic gabbros, which experienced a
108 similar P-T-t history to the LCU (Groppo et al., 2009). REE patterns of eclogites from both the
109 LCU and ZSZ indicate a MORB protolith (Halama et al., 2010; Dal Piaz et al., 1981).

110 The samples from Lago di Cignana have been described previously (Halama et al., 2020) but a
111 brief description is reproduced here.

112 LC-3 is a garnet-phengite-quartzite (metachert) containing garnet, phengite and quartz as major
113 phases, and accessory amphibole, biotite, rutile and opaques (Figure 1b). Garnet is euhedral, 100–
114 500 μm in diameter and zoned, with Mn and Mg-enriched cores and Fe and Ca-enriched rims.
115 Phengite occurs as 300–1500 μm flakes, which are preferentially aligned to define a weak foliation.

116 LC-1b is an eclogite containing garnet, omphacite, blue amphibole, epidote, paragonite and
117 quartz. Paragonite occurs as needles, which are sometimes associated with rhombic pseudomorphs
118 after lawsonite, formed during early retrograde decompression (Groppo et al., 2009).

119 LC-2a is a metagabbro. Omphacite, phengite, epidote, albite and chlorite are major phases, with
120 accessory amphibole, titanite and rutile. This sample has been interpreted as showing pervasive
121 retrogression into the greenschist-facies from a former high-pressure assemblage.

122 *2.2. Raspas Complex, Ecuador*

123 The Raspas Complex in southwest Ecuador exposes an high pressure terrane representing for-
124 merly subducted oceanic lithosphere (Arculus et al., 1999; Feininger, 1980). It includes eclogites and
125 blueschists of the Raspas Formation, which occur alongside garnet-chloritoid-kyanite metapelites.
126 All three lithologies record similar peak pressure-temperature conditions of 550–600 °C, 1.5–2 GPa
127 (John et al., 2010; Gabriele et al., 2003). The age of metamorphism was dated to ~130 Ma, using
128 Lu-Hf methods (John et al., 2010). Lithological differences between the blueschists and eclogites
129 are ascribed to differences in bulk composition, with the blueschists being enriched in K₂O and
130 Al₂O₃, and depleted in CaO, MgO and FeO. Geochemical analysis of the eclogites suggests that
131 their protoliths were typical mid-ocean-ridge-basalts (MORB), with LREE-depleted REE patterns.
132 Blueschists show LREE-enrichment, which has been interpreted as evidence of a seamount-type
133 protolith (John et al., 2010). The samples from the Raspas Complex have not been described indi-
134 vidually, but descriptions of each lithology are given in (John et al., 2010).

135 SEC16-1 is a blueschist containing garnet, Na-amphibole, phengite, paragonite, epidote, apatite,
136 and calcium carbonate, with accessory chlorite (Figure 1a). Garnets (500–1500 μm) preserve an
137 original euhedral outline but are sometimes corroded at the rims. A strong foliation is defined by
138 preferential alignment of Na-amphibole, epidote, phengite and paragonite in the matrix. Epidote
139 occurs also as elongate inclusions in garnet, which are aligned with the external foliation. Some
140 apatite grains are elongate and aligned with the foliation. Chlorite occurs along fractures in garnet
141 and at corroded rims.

142 SEC44-1 is an eclogite containing garnet, omphacite, phengite and quartz as major phases, and

143 accessory Na-amphibole, rutile and apatite. Subhedral to euhedral garnets (100–600 μm) cluster
144 in garnet-rich (up to 50 %) layers up to 3 mm thick. The matrix consists of subhedral omphacite
145 and rutile, randomly oriented phengite flakes, which are often rectangular, and interstitial quartz.
146 Intergrowths of lobate quartz with Na-amphibole occur in low abundance, usually in proximity to
147 garnet.

148 SEC47-1 is an eclogite containing garnet, omphacite, phengite, quartz, Na-amphibole and epi-
149 dote as major phases, with accessory rutile (Figure 1c). Subhedral to euhedral garnet (50–400 μm)
150 occurs in garnet-rich (up to 80 %) layers up to 4 mm thick. Preferential alignment of epidote,
151 Na-amphibole, omphacite and phengite define a weak foliation, which is sub-parallel to the garnet
152 layering. Quartz and rutile also occur in the matrix.

153 *2.3. Jenner, California*

154 Eclogite and blueschist blocks at Jenner, California, occur as part of the Franciscan Complex,
155 a subducted-related melange complex in NW California. Samples were collected just north of the
156 mouth of the Russian River about 1.5 km west of Jenner. These blocks occur loose on the beach, or
157 within a sandstone-shale-rich matrix, which is interpreted as a recent landslide deposit (Raymond,
158 2017). The presence of Mg-rich metasomatic rinds, and geochemical signatures within the blocks,
159 have been used to infer a former serpentinite melange host (Errico et al., 2013). Enrichment
160 in large ion lithophile elements (LILE) and low ϵ_{Nd} and $\delta^7\text{Li}$ values in some blocks has been
161 used to infer an additional sediment-derived fluid source (Sorensen et al., 1997; Penniston-Dorland
162 et al., 2010). Peak metamorphic assemblages in eclogite and blueschist facies are identified in the
163 least retrograded samples and record conditions of $\sim 450\text{--}500$ $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 1–1.5 GPa (Krogh et al., 1994).
164 Prograde to peak garnet growth was dated to c. 158 Ma using Lu-Hf methods (Anczkiewicz et al.,
165 2004). Many samples are retrograded to a lower temperature assemblage (~ 400 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 1 GPa), along
166 a counterclockwise P-T path, which is attributed to secular cooling of the subduction zone. Whole
167 rock major element and immobile trace element compositions are similar to MORB (Penniston-
168 Dorland et al., 2010; Sorensen et al., 1997).

169 JEN12-03 is a blueschist containing garnet, Na-amphibole, omphacite, phengite, titanite, chlo-

170 rite and quartz, with accessory iron oxides (Figure 1d). Three textural domains are identified.
171 Rare omphacite-rich domains suggest a former eclogite facies assemblage. Large domains comprise
172 a matrix of glaucophane, titanite, phengite, quartz and minor chlorite, with garnet occurring as
173 porphyroblasts (up to 700 μm diameter). Garnets preserve an original euhedral outline but are cor-
174 roded around the rims. A third domain is dominated by phengite flakes and fine grained chlorite.
175 In all domains phengite occurs mostly as randomly oriented laths. Around 5 % of the phengite
176 comprises rectangular to rhomboid grains, which are zoned in back scattered electron images.

177 JEN12-07 is a blueschist containing garnet, Na-amphibole, phengite, epidote and titanite, with
178 accessory Fe-sulphides, apatite, quartz and chlorite. The matrix consists of aligned Na-amphibole,
179 epidote, titanite and phengite, which define a foliation. Phengite also occurs as large (up to 500
180 μm) randomly oriented laths. Garnet occurs as 1–2.5 mm porphyroblasts with inclusions of Na-
181 amphibole, epidote, titanite, quartz and chlorite, which preserve a foliation that is rotated relative
182 to the external foliation.

183 JEN12-09 is an eclogite containing garnet, omphacite, phengite, epidote and titanite, with
184 accessory chlorite, rutile, and quartz. The matrix consists of omphacite, phengite, epidote and
185 titanite. Garnet occurs as 0.5–3 mm subhedral to euhedral porphyroblasts, containing inclusions
186 of omphacite, phengite, quartz and rutile. Chlorite occurs only on the rims of garnets. Phengite
187 also occurs as up to 500 μm long grains in a 2 mm thick vein.

188 [Figure 1 about here.]

189 **3. Analytical methods**

190 *3.1. Major element contents*

191 Mineral compositions of some samples (see supplementary material) were determined using a
192 Cameca SX100 electron microprobe equipped with 5 wavelength dispersive spectrometers (WDS) at
193 the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, UK. Acceleration voltage was 20 kV,
194 beam current was 20 nA and beam diameter was 5 μm . On-peak counting times (seconds) for
195 elements were as follows (background time in brackets): K 10 (5), Na 10 (5), Mg 30 (15), Si 10

196 (5), Al 30 (15), Fe 40 (20), Ca 20 (10), Ti 60 (30), Mn 90 (45). A variety of synthetic and natural
197 standards were used for calibration and a PAP matrix correction was applied. Other samples
198 were analysed using a JEOL JXA 8900R electron microprobe at the University of Kiel, Germany.
199 Elements were measured 15 s on peak and 7 s on background with an acceleration voltage of 15 kV,
200 beam current of 15 na and beam diameter of 5 μm . Natural standards were used for calibration
201 and a CITZAF matrix correction was applied. EPMA spots were located as close as possible to the
202 corresponding SIMS spots.

203 3.2. Nitrogen, volatile and trace element contents

204 Nitrogen contents of minerals were determined *in situ* by Secondary Ion Mass Spectroscopy
205 (SIMS) at the Edinburgh Ion Microprobe Facility using a Cameca 7f-GEO with Hyperion source.
206 Standard polished thin sections were cut to 25 mm rounds and gold-coated prior to loading into
207 high vacuum (ca. 3×10^{-9} mbar). The sample surface was sputtered with a focused $^{16}\text{O}^-$ beam
208 with a 18 nA beam current and an impact energy of 13.5 keV. Spot size was about 15 μm . One spot
209 was analysed per grain, except where core and rim spots were analysed and reported separately.
210 Prior to each analysis the analytical area was pre-sputtered for 120 s using a 15 μm beam raster to
211 avoid background contamination. An effective field aperture of 20 μm was used to further reduce
212 N backgrounds to <0.4 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Positive secondary ions sputtered from the sample were accelerated
213 into a mass spectrometer and counted with an electron multiplier. An energy window of 50 ± 20 V
214 was applied to the secondary ion beam to reduce potential matrix effects. A mass resolution of
215 2000 ($M/\Delta M$) was used to avoid interferences of $^{28}\text{Si}^{2+}$ and $^{12}\text{CH}_2^+$ on the $^{14}\text{N}^+$ signal, as well
216 as $^7\text{Li}^{28}\text{Si}$ and $^{19}\text{F}^{16}\text{O}$ on ^{35}Cl . The mass calibration was updated at the start of each analysis
217 using an automated peak centering routine on the ^{30}Si peak. The following isotopes were measured
218 (total counting times per analysis in seconds in brackets): ^7Li (18), ^{11}B (30), $^{28}\text{Si}^{2+}$ (12), ^{14}N (60),
219 ^{19}F (30), ^{26}Mg (12), ^{30}Si (12), ^{35}Cl (60). The ^{30}Si signal was used for internal standardisation
220 using known SiO_2 contents measured by EPMA. As the wrong peak for ^{35}Cl was selected during
221 the initial run, all analytical spots were repeated in a separate routine measuring ^{26}Mg , ^{30}Si and
222 ^{35}Cl only, with other analytical parameters kept identical to the original run. Phengite mica 80-3

(71±19 µg/g N) and muscovite LMMN (186±11 µg/g N) were used for calibration of the N contents (Busigny et al., 2003b, 2004), St8.1.A9 basaltic glass for Cl (Lesne et al., 2011), Fba-5 basaltic glass for F (Guggino and Hervig, 2011), and GSD1-G basaltic glass for remaining elements (Jochum et al., 2005), the results of which are presented in the electronic supplement. ¹⁴N count rates were low, equalling to a relative ion yield (RIY) compared to Si of ca. 0.002, which is why this element is not commonly measured, but signals were high enough to give acceptable counting statistics with the analytical conditions used. For example, for standard LMMN#2 (186 µg/g N), the ¹⁴N count rate was ca. 35 count per second, for a total of 2100 counts for the whole analysis (60s for ¹⁴N) and a standard deviation of 2.2% based on counting statistics. This is nearly identical to the 1s uncertainty based on the 6 repeat cycles for each analyses (internal precision), which was 2.4%, indicating that analytical uncertainty was dominated by counting statistics. Repeatability (external precision) of this standard was 4.3% (n=16, see Supplementary Table), so about double the internal precision, which is probably mostly related to slight heterogeneity of the standard and/or instrumental factors. 1s uncertainties presented in the figures is based on the propagated uncertainty of the measurements (internal precision) and the uncertainty of the slope of the calibration line (Figure 2). The measurement of molecular species such as ¹⁴N¹⁶O or ²⁸Si¹⁴N was explored in the course of this study, but did not yield any advantage, as with the positive secondary ion beam used in our setup the yield of these species was lower than the ¹⁴N signal. This contrasts results in negative ion mode, where an advantage was observed (Füri et al., 2018), resulting in lower detection limits, but considering our ¹⁴N count rates were sufficient for the material under investigation, we preferred to be able to analyse other fluid-mobile elements at the same time as N. The two LMMN grains gave slightly different averages (187±22 and 153±7 µg/g, respectively, with n=20), the first grain containing areas with higher N contents (Figure 2). MgO contents (0.8 wt%) also showed about 10% variation, indicating some heterogeneity in this material (Figure 2). Multiple repeats of the Phe80-3 standard showed 13% variation (1s) in N content, which suggests some heterogeneity in this material as well, as it is much higher than the rsd for individual analyses (3%) and repeatability of LMMN grain #2 (4%). Thus, the overall added uncertainty due to calibration uncertainty is ca. 15% Furthermore, we obtained a value of 17±0.4 µg/g N (n=2) on muscovite ms98973, for which no

251 N data has been published. Basaltic glasses GSD1-G and BCR2-G both showed concentrations of
252 about 1.5 ± 0.5 $\mu\text{g/g}$ N, which is only slightly higher than what we measured for quartz (0.4 $\mu\text{g/g}$). As
253 it is possible that these materials contain small amounts of N, no background correction was applied.
254 Muscovite ms98973 (Dyar et al., 2001) was intended to be used as a secondary standard to detect
255 potential matrix effects between basaltic glass and white mica, but we found that our concentrations
256 for B (23 - 35 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and particularly Cl (31 ± 13 $\mu\text{g/g}$) are very far from published values (180 and
257 700 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively; Dyar et al. (2001)), as well as highly heterogeneous. Fluorine was more
258 homogeneous and our value of 12840 ± 45 $\mu\text{g/g}$ is in reasonable agreement with the published value
259 of 16800 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Dyar et al. (2001). We also analysed two micas from Martin et al. (2015), namely
260 JJE01-X-3 mica and MVE02-8-5 mica to evaluate their use as potential N standards. However,
261 although N contents were high, unfortunately they were also extremely heterogeneous for N, Li and
262 B (see electronic supplement).

263 [Figure 2 about here.]

264 4. Results

265 4.1. Major element mineral chemistry and N, B, Li concentrations in white mica

266 4.1.1. Lago di Cignana

267 Garnet-phengite quartzite sample LC-3 contains phengite with Si contents from 6.85 - 7.00 p.f.u.
268 and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ from 0.02 - 0.06 (Figure 3). There is a strong negative correlation between Si p.f.u.
269 and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$. Nitrogen contents occupy a narrow range from 10 - 21 $\mu\text{g/g}$, whilst B contents
270 vary widely (85 - 329 $\mu\text{g/g}$). Lithium contents vary from 39 - 62 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Despite the wide range in
271 B contents, there is no clear trend in [N] versus [B]. Lithium contents show an overall negative
272 correlation with [B], and positive correlation with [N] (Figure 7).

273 Metagabbro sample LC-2a contains two populations of phengite with different major element
274 chemistry (Figure 3). Six grains had Si contents from 6.67 - 6.77 p.f.u. and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K}) = 0.10$ - 0.12 .
275 Two grains had higher Si contents (6.84 - 7.03) and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K}) = 0.04$ - 0.12 . The low Si population

276 has [N] from 66–123 $\mu\text{g/g}$, [B] from 25–36 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and [Li] from 55–64 $\mu\text{g/g}$. The high Si population
277 has lower [N] (20–24 $\mu\text{g/g}$), higher [B] (48–49 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and lower [Li] (41–47 $\mu\text{g/g}$).

278 Eclogite sample LC-1b contains paragonite with a narrow range of Si contents (6.06–6.10 p.f.u.)
279 and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K}) = 0.94\text{--}0.97$ (Figure 3). There is a negative correlation between Si p.f.u. and
280 $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$. Nitrogen contents vary from 15–47 $\mu\text{g/g}$, [B] from 13–24 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and [Li] from 5–11 $\mu\text{g/g}$.
281 There are no correlations between major and trace element concentrations.

282 4.1.2. *Raspas*

283 Eclogite sample SEC44-1 contains phengite with Si content ranging from 6.49–6.79 p.f.u., and
284 $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ from 0.11–0.14 (Figure 3). Phengite grains are not zoned in major element chemistry.
285 Nitrogen contents range from 147–244 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and are not correlated with variations in major element
286 chemistry. Boron contents range from 38–81 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and Li contents from 19–48 $\mu\text{g/g}$. There is a
287 positive correlation between [N] and [B] with average $[\text{N}]/[\text{B}] \sim 3.2$ (Figure 4).

288 Eclogite sample SEC47-1 contains phengite with a narrow range of Si contents from 6.51–6.60
289 p.f.u., and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ from 0.12–0.15 (Figure 3). Phengite grains are not zoned in major element
290 chemistry. Nitrogen contents range from 37–83 $\mu\text{g/g}$, so are considerably lower than in sample
291 SEC44-1. Boron contents vary from 50–77 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and Li contents from 38–49 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Phengite grains
292 show no significant intra-grain variation in [Li], [B] or [N]. There are no correlations between major
293 and trace element concentrations.

294 Blueschist sample SEC16-1 contains phengite as well as paragonite. Phengite has Si contents
295 from 6.64–6.80 p.f.u. and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ from 0.06–0.14 (Figure 3). There is a negative correlation
296 between Si content and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$. Phengite grains are not zoned in major element chemistry. N
297 contents range from 117–243 $\mu\text{g/g}$, B contents from 30–92 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and Li contents from 31–43 $\mu\text{g/g}$.
298 There is a positive correlation between Si p.f.u. and [N], and Si p.f.u. and [B], and a negative
299 correlation between Si p.f.u. and [Li]. Paragonite has Si = 5.98–6.00 p.f.u. and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K}) =$
300 $0.92\text{--}0.96$. Paragonite N contents range from 31–78 $\mu\text{g/g}$, [B] from 112–139 $\mu\text{g/g}$, and [Li] from 24–
301 28 $\mu\text{g/g}$. One exceptional grain has higher Si p.f.u. and lower $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ than other paragonites,
302 with Si = 6.11 p.f.u. and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K}) = 0.76$, but unexceptional trace element contents. There are

303 no correlations between major and trace element concentrations in paragonite.

304 4.1.3. *Jenner*

305 Sample JEN12-03 contains phengite with a large range of Si contents from 6.61–7.00 p.f.u. Most
306 grains have Na/(Na+K) from 0.01–0.03 and show no correlation between Na/(Na+K) and Si p.f.u.
307 (Figure 3). Three low Si grains have much higher Na/(Na+K) from 0.09–0.11 and show a negative
308 correlation between Na/(Na+K) and Si p.f.u.. Nitrogen contents range from 108–270 µg/g, [B]
309 from 42–96 µg/g and [Li] from 13–33 µg/g. There are no correlations between trace and major
310 element concentrations.

311 Sample JEN12-07 contains phengite with a large range of Si contents from 6.66–7.06 p.f.u.
312 and Na/(Na+K) = 0.02–0.09 (Figure 3). There is a negative correlation between Si p.f.u. and
313 Na/(Na+K). Nitrogen contents vary from 155–320 µg/g and are uncorrelated with Si p.f.u. Boron
314 contents vary from 33–61 µg/g and [Li] from 6–38 µg/g. There is a positive correlation between [B]
315 and [N] with average [N]/[B] ~4.5 (Figure 4).

316 Sample JEN12-09 contains phengite with a large range of Si contents from 6.50–6.88 p.f.u.,
317 Na/(Na+K) from 0.03–0.11, and a negative correlation between Si p.f.u. and Na/(Na+K) (Figure
318 3). Nitrogen contents vary from 22–127 µg/g, [B] from 29–64 µg/g, and [Li] from 16–42 µg/g. There
319 are no correlations between trace and major element concentrations.

320 [Figure 3 about here.]

321 [Figure 4 about here.]

322 4.2. *N, B, Li concentrations in other minerals*

323 Clinopyroxene, amphibole, epidote, titanite and garnet contain <5 µg/g N and B in all samples
324 (see supplementary data). Garnet, epidote and titanite also contain <5 µg/g Li. Clinopyroxene and
325 amphibole are significant hosts of Li varying from 46–142 µg/g in clinopyroxene, and 6–71 µg/g in
326 amphibole. The N content of chlorite is variable between different samples. Chlorite which occurs
327 in cracks and on the rims of garnet contains no detectable N, K or Na (JEN12-07, JEN12-09,
328 SEC16-1, LC-2a). Chlorite which occurs in the matrix of sample JEN12-03 contains 10–83 µg/g N

329 and minor amounts of K (up to 0.32 wt%) and Na (up to 0.13 wt%). Coexisting phengite contains
330 108–270 $\mu\text{g/g}$ N. Chlorite in all samples contains <5 $\mu\text{g/g}$ B, and 29–140 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Li but neither varies
331 systematically with textural setting like N.

332 *4.3. Bulk nitrogen contents*

333 Bulk N contents of each sample were calculated to assess the variability of N contents in different
334 protoliths (Table 1). For each sample, we combine the mean N concentration in each N-bearing
335 phase with the modal abundance of that phase, and use a weighted average to calculate the bulk N
336 concentration. The standard errors on mean mineral N concentrations are larger than the analytical
337 uncertainty for all samples except LC-3, which indicates that variation in N concentrations is due to
338 heterogeneity between grains, rather than analytical uncertainty. Mineral modes were estimated by
339 point counting 500 points on representative back scattered electron or optical photomicrographs of
340 each sample, using the software JMicroVision. Absolute uncertainties on mineral modes are calcu-
341 lated as \sqrt{x}/x , where x is the number of points. Bulk N contents range from 1.2–71 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Standard
342 errors on mineral modes and N concentrations were propagated to calculate the uncertainty in bulk
343 N contents.

344 [Table 1 about here.]

345 **5. Discussion**

346 *5.1. Residency of nitrogen and implications for global N recycling*

347 Nitrogen typically occurs as NH_4^+ in crustal rocks, where it substitutes for K^+ in K-bearing
348 minerals such as micas, and to a lesser extent for Na^+ and Ca^{2+} in minerals such as plagioclase
349 (Honma and Itihara, 1981). White mica is the dominant K-bearing phase in most high pressure
350 metabasaltic and metapelitic rocks up to ~ 9.5 GPa, 750–1000°C (Poli and Schmidt, 2002; Domanik
351 and Holloway, 1996). Previous studies have used correlations between bulk K_2O and N contents
352 to identify white micas as the main host for N (e.g. Bebout et al., 2013; Busigny et al., 2003a) in
353 these rocks. Halama et al. (2010) reported bulk N concentrations for the three Raspas samples in

354 this study. These values are consistent with our estimated bulk concentrations based on mineral
355 modes (Table 1), which confirms that most N is hosted within the analysed minerals and not along
356 grain boundaries or in fluid inclusions. Most samples contain a single white mica phase (phengite
357 or paragonite), which is the dominant N-bearing phase in the sample. Sample SEC16-1 contains
358 coexisting phengite (117–243 $\mu\text{g/g N}$) and paragonite (31–118 $\mu\text{g/g N}$), where N is preferentially
359 partitioned into phengite. This is consistent with the large ionic radius of NH_4^+ (1.67 Å), which is
360 closer to that of K^+ (1.64 Å) than Na^+ (1.39 Å) (Shannon, 1976; Sidey, 2016), and with previous
361 data on the nitrogen partitioning between Na- and K-bearing minerals (Honma and Itihara, 1981).
362 Nitrogen content of white micas is uncorrelated with $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ in most samples, which suggests
363 that small variations in white mica $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ ratio do not exert a strong control on N partitioning
364 behaviour.

365 [Table 2 about here.]

366 Our data suggest that white mica hosts >90% of the total N in all but two samples (LC-
367 1b and JEN12-03). Omphacite, glaucophane/barroisite and epidote contain <5 $\mu\text{g/g N}$ in all
368 samples. Omphacite and/or glaucophane are the next most significant N hosts after mica due to
369 their large modal abundance in most samples. Calculated inter-mineral partition coefficients for B
370 and Li (Table 2) are similar to previously published values (Marschall et al., 2006), which indicates
371 that our values represent equilibrium partitioning and that our samples therefore can be used to
372 investigate N partitioning. Partitioning values for N are variable between samples, due to the high
373 N variability in phengite and the low N concentration in other minerals, but broadly indicate that
374 N partitions strongly into phengite compared to other phases. Bulk K content controls white mica
375 mode in metabasic rocks, and since N strongly partitions into white mica over other phases, the
376 K content will exert a strong control on the N budget of subducted oceanic crust. Figure 5 shows
377 that reconstructed bulk K and N contents for mafic samples fall on a positive trend, with average
378 $\text{N} (\mu\text{g/g})/\text{K}_2\text{O} (\text{wt}\%) = 19.3 \pm 2.0$. The metachert sample LC-3 plots as an outlier. $\text{N}/\text{K}_2\text{O}$ for
379 subducted mafic rocks is an order of magnitude lower than for metasedimentary rocks ($\text{N}/\text{K}_2\text{O} \sim 200$,
380 Busigny et al. (2003a)). Our samples are representative of the basaltic upper oceanic crust, which

381 has undergone hydrothermal alteration on the seafloor and subsequently been subducted. Using
382 N/K₂O we can estimate the flux of N subducted in upper oceanic crust from the K₂O content and
383 the mass of crust subducted each year (2×10^{16} g/yr, Peacock (1990)). If we assume all basaltic
384 crust has a MORB-like K₂O content (0.16 wt% K₂O, Gale et al. (2013)), we calculate a flux of
385 $6.2 \pm 0.6 \times 10^{10}$ g/yr using our average N/K₂O value of 19.3 ± 2.0 . For average altered oceanic
386 crust (AOC, 0.62 wt% K₂O, Kelley et al. (2018)) we calculate $2.4 \pm 0.2 \times 10^{11}$ g/yr. Busigny et al.
387 (2011) calculated a N flux of 1.3×10^{11} g/yr for upper oceanic crust, based on the average N content
388 of metabasalts, which is similar to our value assuming AOC but larger than our value assuming
389 MORB-like crust. All our estimates are somewhat smaller than the flux attributed to subducted
390 sediments (7.4×10^{11} g/yr, Busigny et al. (2003a)).

391 [Figure 5 about here.]

392 The only non-mica mineral with significant N is chlorite, for which N contents vary with textural
393 setting. Chlorite forming rims around garnet contains very low [N] (typically <5 µg/g). This is
394 consistent with it forming from retrograde breakdown of garnet, which contains <1 µg/g N. Chlorite
395 which occurs in the matrix alongside N-rich phengite contains 10-83 µg/g N (sample JEN12-03).
396 Chlorite from JEN12-03 also contains minor amounts of K + Na (Figure 6). Incorporation of
397 minor K and Na in chlorite crystals by interlayering of chlorite and K-bearing phyllosilicates at the
398 nanometre scale has been investigated in diagenesis and sub-greenschist facies metamorphism of
399 mudstones and volcanoclastic sediments (Lee et al., 1984; Ahn et al., 1988). It is possible that this
400 mechanism is partially responsible for incorporation of K, Na and N in our chlorites, but N/K₂O
401 is much higher in chlorite than in co-existing phengite (chl: 370, phe: 18), which suggests excess
402 N in the chlorite structure itself. Chlorite is structurally similar to the K and Na-bearing micas,
403 with both minerals containing large interlayer cation sites. In micas these are filled by K⁺ and Na⁺
404 cations, whereas in chlorite they are vacant. A possible substitution reaction for N incorporation
405 into chlorite is NH_3 (fluid) + $\text{OH}^- \longrightarrow \text{NH}_4^+ + \text{O}^{2-}$, where NH_4^+ is incorporated in the vacant
406 interlayer sites.

407 [Figure 6 about here.]

408 Chlorite is common in greenschist facies rocks across a wide range of bulk compositions and
 409 therefore could potentially play an important role in subduction zone N cycling. However, it
 410 has received little previous attention as a possible host for N. Low-grade pelitic schists from the
 411 Erzgebirge massif displayed weak correlations between either chlorite or white mica mode and bulk N
 412 content, but a strong correlation between chlorite + white mica mode and bulk N content (Mingram
 413 and Bräuer, 2001), which supports chlorite being an important host for N. Chlorite also occurs in
 414 chlorite harzburgites, formed during serpentinite dehydration. Serpentinites typically have bulk N
 415 concentrations $<5 \mu\text{g/g}$ (Halama et al., 2014; Philippot et al., 2007), but one chlorite harzburgite
 416 studied by Halama et al. (2014) has elevated N contents ($\sim 20 \mu\text{g/g}$), which may be consistent with
 417 a role for chlorite as a host of N. More research is required to investigate the importance of chlorite
 418 as a host for N in different lithologies and the mechanism of N incorporation in chlorite.

419 *5.2. Fluid rock interaction: a simple system*

420 Sample LC-3 (Lago di Cignana garnet-phengite quartzite) was part of a previous study by
 421 Halama et al. (2020), who showed a strong positive correlation of B concentration and B isotopic
 422 composition, which was interpreted as resulting from addition of isotopically heavy B during peak
 423 metamorphic fluid-rock interaction with a serpentinite-derived fluid. We extend the fluid-rock
 424 interaction modelling approach of Halama et al. (2020) to include [Li] and [N] data and estimate
 425 the phengite-fluid partition coefficient for N. We modified the equation of Nabelek (1987) for open
 426 system fluid-rock interaction to replace the concentration of an element in the rock, with the
 427 concentration in phengite, multiplied by the modal abundance of phengite:

$$C_{phe}^f = DC_w - (DC_w - C_{phe}^i) e^{-n/Dx_{phe}}$$

428 C_{phe}^f is the final concentration of the trace element in the phengite, C_{phe}^i is the initial concentra-
 429 tion in the phengite, C_w is the concentration in the fluid, n is the fluid-rock ratio (by weight), x_{phe} is
 430 the modal abundance of phengite (33%), and D is the phengite-fluid partition coefficient. For B we
 431 use a partition coefficient of 0.7 (Marschall et al., 2006). We used an initial B concentration in the
 432 phengite of $50 \mu\text{g/g}$ and concentration in the fluid of $1000 \mu\text{g/g}$, based on the preferred interpreta-

433 tion of addition of B from a serpentinite-derived, B-rich fluid (Halama et al., 2020). Marschall et al.
 434 (2006) reported a subsolidus partition coefficient for Li of 0.05, although higher values of 1 have
 435 been reported for suprasolidus experiments (Adam et al., 2014). We evaluate two different scenarios
 436 here to model the Li and B data and will subsequently use these constraints to model the combined
 437 [N]-[B] and [N]-[Li] data. For $D_{\text{Li}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.05$, the [B]-[Li] data can be fitted using a Li concentration
 438 in the fluid of 800–1000 $\mu\text{g/g}$, and initial Li concentration in the phengite of 60–120 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Figure 7).
 439 For larger values of $D_{\text{Li}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.5 - 1$, the [B]-[Li] data can be fitted with $[\text{Li}]_{\text{w}} = 0 - 20 \text{ g/g}$ and
 440 $[\text{Li}]_{\text{phe}}^{\text{i}} \approx 65 \text{ g/g}$. Serpentinites typically contain $<10 \mu\text{g/g}$ Li (Deschamps et al., 2012; Kodolányi
 441 et al., 2012; Lafay et al., 2013; Vils et al., 2008), and fluid inclusions representing serpentinite de-
 442 hydration fluids also have $<10 \mu\text{g/g}$ Li in both experiments and natural samples (Spandler et al.,
 443 2014; Scambelluri et al., 2004). Serpentinite-derived fluids are therefore expected to have low Li
 444 contents and the second scenario, with a value of $D_{\text{Li}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.5 - 1$ is preferred. To model the
 445 [N]-[Li] data we therefore use $D_{\text{Li}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.5$, $[\text{Li}]_{\text{w}} = 0 \text{ g/g}$ and $[\text{Li}]_{\text{phe}}^{\text{i}} = 65 \text{ g/g}$, which allows the
 446 maximum range of $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}}$ values that are consistent with the data.

447 To model the N data we consider a variety of theoretical scenarios and evaluate which are con-
 448 sistent with our data and independent constraints on fluid compositions. The [N]-[Li] data display a
 449 positive slope, which can be fitted with $[\text{N}]_{\text{w}} = 0 \text{ g/g}$, $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.5 - 1.5$ and $[\text{N}]_{\text{phe}}^{\text{i}} = 17 - 20 \text{ g/g}$
 450 (Figure 7). These parameters also fit the [N]-[B] data. $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}} > 1.5$ is not consistent with the
 451 slope of the [N]-[Li] array for any range of other parameters. There is a trade-off between D and
 452 the concentration in the fluid, such that smaller values of $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}}$ are consistent with the data if
 453 the fluid contains nitrogen (e.g. $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.2$, $[\text{N}]_{\text{w}} = 50 \text{ g/g}$). There are no data available on the
 454 N contents of fluids derived from serpentinite breakdown, but bulk serpentinites contain $<15 \mu\text{g/g}$
 455 N, and typically $<5 \mu\text{g/g}$ N (Halama et al., 2014; Philippot et al., 2007). The major pulse of fluid
 456 release in serpentinites occurs during antigorite breakdown at 600–650 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, which coincides with the
 457 P-T conditions inferred for fluid-rock interaction in this sample (Halama et al., 2020). The amount
 458 of fluid release is 6–13 wt%, depending on the serpentinite composition (Padrón-Navarta et al.,
 459 2013; Ulmer and Trommsdorff, 1995). Fluid release occurs over a narrow temperature interval so
 460 all fluid is likely to be pooled. Chlorite harzburgites produced from antigorite breakdown show a

461 similar range of N contents to serpentinites (Halama et al., 2014), which suggests that the amount
 462 of N released during antigorite breakdown is relatively small. Based on these constraints we suggest
 463 that N contents in serpentinite-derived fluids are likely <100 $\mu\text{g/g}$, and may be much lower. Using
 464 this N concentration in the fluid, a lower bound of $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.1$ is the minimum value of $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}}$
 465 which is consistent with the [N]-[Li] and [N]-[B] data. For a lower value of 10 $\mu\text{g/g}$ N in the fluid,
 466 the data are fit by $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.3$.

467 With $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.1 - 1.5$ all the data can be explained by fluid-rock ratios of up to 0.1, which
 468 is similar to the values of 0.1–0.13 obtained from B isotope modelling (Halama et al., 2020). Note
 469 these values have been rescaled from the Halama paper because the effect of the modal abundance of
 470 phengite on modifying the bulk rock equations was not accounted for. A value of $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.1 - 1.5$
 471 is therefore considered the most consistent with our data and fluid composition constraints.

472 [Figure 7 about here.]

473 The reconstructed bulk N content for this garnet-phengite quartzite (sample LC-3) is 5 $\mu\text{g/g}$
 474 (Table 1). Siliceous ooze and chert, which are considered the likely protoliths, contain $18-78$ $\mu\text{g/g}$
 475 bulk N in samples from the Western Pacific (Sadofsky and Bebout, 2004). If these values are
 476 taken as representative then this suggests that N was lost during subduction, consistent with the
 477 conclusions from our fluid-rock interaction modelling.

478 Reported subsolidus values for $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}}$ range from 0.01 to ~ 10 , depending on the experimen-
 479 tal conditions (Table 3). Pöter et al. (2004) reported $D_{\text{NH}_4^+}^{\text{muscovite-fluid}} \approx 0.13$ at 0.4 GPa and
 480 $D_{\text{NH}_4^+}^{\text{mu-fl}} \approx 0.20$ at 1.5 GPa in the temperature range $400-600$ $^{\circ}\text{C}$. More recent experiments have fo-
 481 cused on the partitioning behaviour at higher temperatures, during melting, but have produced sub-
 482 stantially differing results in different experimental bulk compositions. Förster et al. (2019) report
 483 $D_{\text{NH}_4^+}^{\text{phengite-fluid}} \approx 10$ at 2 GPa, 750 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (subsolidus) and $0.5-1$ at 3 GPa, $800-850$ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (suprasolidus)
 484 during reaction of a metapelitic melt with dunite. Jackson et al. (2021) report $D_{\text{NH}_4^+}^{\text{biotite-fluid}} = 0.01-$
 485 0.4 at $0.2-2.3$ GPa, $725-925$ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ during reaction of silicate minerals with hydrous fluids. NH_4^+ has
 486 also previously been assumed to behave similarly to Rb^+ (e.g. Mallik et al., 2018; Busigny et al.,
 487 2003a), which has a similar ionic radius (NH_4^+ : 1.67 \AA , Rb^+ : 1.72 \AA), and a $D_{\text{Rb}}^{\text{phe-fl}}$ value of $\sim 4-10$

488 (Adam et al., 2014; Melzer and Wunder, 2000).

489 Our value of $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.1 - 1.5$ overlaps with the suprasolidus values of Förster et al. (2019).
490 However, it is inconsistent with a single subsolidus value ($D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 10$) of Förster et al. (2019).
491 and with the values of 4–10, based on the assumption that NH_4^+ behaves like Rb^+ . Jackson et al.
492 (2021) provide small values for $D_N^{\text{biotite-fl}}$ (0.01–0.4), which are mostly inconsistent with our value
493 for $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}}$, when considering the consistent $D_N^{\text{bi-phe}} \approx 3$ reported by all studies. The subsolidus
494 values of Pöter et al. (2004) ($D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.12 - -0.2$) fall at the bottom end of the range of values
495 which are consistent with our data. The experimental data are either from similar temperatures but
496 lower pressures to the Cignana case study (Pöter et al., 2004), or similar pressures but higher tem-
497 peratures (Förster et al., 2019; Jackson et al., 2021). Extrapolation of the P-T effects reported by
498 the Jackson study does not match our value for $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}}$, and therefore differences in P-T conditions
499 are less likely to be the main factor for the discrepancy between our value and their work. Experi-
500 mental and natural values for $D_N^{\text{phe-bi}}$ are relatively consistent between multiple studies at different
501 P-T conditions, whereas experimental values for $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}}$ vary widely (Table 3), which suggests that
502 variation may be a result of fluid-related factors. The difficulty of preserving N contents of experi-
503 mental fluids during quenching may be a source of variation in the experimental results (e.g. Chen
504 et al., 2019). Nitrogen is present as NH_4^+ in both biotite and phengite, whereas N speciation in
505 fluid varies between N_2 , NH_3 and NH_4^+ , depending on P, T, pH and $f\text{O}_2$ (Mikhail and Sverjensky,
506 2014; Mikhail et al., 2017) and therefore differences in fluid pH and $f\text{O}_2$ between experiments, and
507 between experiments and our samples, are also possible reasons for the discrepancy.

508 [Table 3 about here.]

509 5.3. Fluid-rock interaction: growth of new phases

510 Sample SEC16-1 (Raspas blueschist) contains phengite as well as paragonite. As both minerals
511 are significant hosts for N and B, phengite compositions cannot be considered in isolation. Phengites
512 show a decrease in [N] and [B] with decreasing Si p.f.u., an increase in [Li], as well as a increase in
513 $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ (i.e. its paragonite component) whereas paragonite shows unsystematic variation in
514 these elements (Figure 3).

515 We performed equilibrium phase diagram modelling in order to understand the mineralogical
516 evolution of this sample and link this to the trace element behaviour. Calculations were performed
517 using the Theriak-Domino software (de Capitani and Brown, 1987; de Capitani and Petrakakis,
518 2010) and the NCKFMASHTO + CO₂ system using an H₂O–CO₂ fluid in excess and the Hol-
519 land and Powell (2011) thermodynamic database. The solution models used were: amphibole,
520 clinopyroxene, white mica (Green et al., 2016); garnet, biotite, chlorite (White et al., 2014); epidote
521 (Holland and Powell, 2011).

522 We calculated P-X(CO₂) and T-X(CO₂) equilibrium phase diagrams with variable X(CO₂) from
523 0 to 0.025, using the bulk composition for this sample reported in John et al. (2010) and an average
524 MORB value of X_{Fe³⁺} = 0.16 (Cottrell and Kelley, 2011). The effect of varying X_{Fe³⁺} from 0.05–0.25
525 moved field boundaries by only <1 kbar for all phases except epidote and therefore X_{Fe³⁺} = 0.16 is
526 considered suitable for this sample.

527 The observed assemblage occupies a field ranging from 1.5–1.9 GPa, 520–570 °C and X(CO₂)
528 from 0.010–0.022 (Figure 8). This field is bounded by the disappearance of paragonite as X(CO₂)
529 decreases, and the disappearance of garnet and epidote as X(CO₂) increases. John et al. (2010)
530 previously calculated peak P-T conditions for the Raspas complex using conventional thermobarom-
531 etry on garnet-omphacite-phengite assemblages. Peak P-T conditions of eclogites were 1.6–2.0 GPa
532 and 550–650 °C. Garnet-omphacite-phengite domains in blueschists recorded slightly lower peak
533 pressures of 1.4–1.6 GPa and similar temperatures. According to our modelling, omphacite is only
534 stable under these conditions at lower values of X(CO₂) than are required to stabilise the observed
535 blueschist assemblage, which has 16% paragonite. As mentioned above, the sample contains car-
536 bonate, and addition of CO₂ to the system stabilises paragonite. As X(CO₂) increases across the
537 observed assemblage field, the paragonite mode increases from 0 to 25%, and glaucophane mode
538 decreases from 40 to 15% due to the (unbalanced) reaction glaucophane + CO₂ → parago-
539 nite + (Fe,Mg,Ca) carbonate. The high paragonite mode observed in the sample can therefore be
540 explained as a result of infiltration of a carbonate-bearing fluid.

541 As X(CO₂) increases across the peak assemblage field, phengite Na/(Na+K) increases and Si
542 content decreases. Phengite mode remains fairly constant, decreasing slightly from 16 to 14%. A

543 range of phengite Si contents are observed in different phengite grains. These are interpreted as
544 representing partial recrystallisation of phengite during interaction with a carbonate-bearing fluid,
545 with the new domains having lower Si p.f.u. and higher Na p.f.u.. Trace element redistribution from
546 other phases into phengite supports our interpretation. For example, the Li contents in phengite,
547 which correlate with decreasing Si p.f.u., can be interpreted to reflect incorporation of Li from
548 glaucophane breakdown, since glaucophane has high Li contents (132–169 $\mu\text{g/g}$). Although the
549 preservation of variable phengite Si contents implies that full equilibrium was not reached during
550 fluid-rock interaction (i.e. the reactant phases were not totally consumed), the assemblage, major
551 and trace element data support the conclusion that interaction with a CO_2 -bearing fluid occurred,
552 likely during early retrograde metamorphism.

553 [Figure 8 about here.]

554 Decrease in phengite N content in SEC16-1 also correlates with decreasing Si content and in-
555 creasing $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$. This can be explained by the phengite recrystallisation discussed above.
556 During paragonite growth, partial re-equilibration of phengite with the growing paragonite results
557 in transfer of N from phengite to paragonite. Taking the phengite with the highest Si content to
558 represent the initial phengite composition prior to fluid-rock interaction, we use the N content of
559 this phengite (232 $\mu\text{g/g}$) to calculate the initial bulk N concentration of the sample. To calculate
560 the final bulk N concentration we use the average N concentrations of all phengite and paragonite
561 grains measured (190 and 53 $\mu\text{g/g}$ respectively). The observed phengite and paragonite modes are
562 around 16%. Using the method described in Section 4.3 we calculate the bulk N contents before and
563 after fluid-rock interaction. The final bulk N content is 39 $\mu\text{g/g}$. For the conservative assumption
564 that the phengite mode does not change during fluid-rock interaction, the initial bulk N is 37 $\mu\text{g/g}$.
565 Accounting for the modelled decrease in phengite mode from 16 to 14%, the initial bulk is 42 $\mu\text{g/g}$.
566 The decrease in N concentration seen in phengite in this sample can therefore be explained by
567 redistribution of N between growing and dissolving phases during fluid-rock interaction, without
568 any significant external input or loss of N from the rock. The uncertainty on the bulk [N] values
569 was estimated to be ~15–20% by combining uncertainties on the mineral N concentrations and

570 mineral modes. This conclusion is similar to Halama et al. (2017), who showed that the retention
571 of N during fluid-rock interaction is strongly controlled by the stability or breakdown of white mica.
572 A similar reaction (albite + CO₂ → paragonite + aragonite) observed in calcschists from the
573 Western Alps was associated with 60% loss of N from the bulk rock, with volumetric fluid-rock
574 ratios of 3–4 (Epstein et al., 2021). The difference in N behaviour compared to our study may be
575 explained by a lower fluid-rock ratio, or a different fluid composition. If we assume that the X(CO₂)
576 values which stabilise the observed assemblage (Figure 8) are representative of the fluid, and that all
577 the CO₂ in the fluid was converted to carbonate minerals, we can estimate the minimum amount of
578 fluid required to generate the modal abundance of carbonate observed. Using X(CO₂)=0.01–0.022
579 and a carbonate mode of 3–5 vol% gives a fluid-rock ratio of 0.2–0.9, which is indeed lower than
580 for the Epstein study.

581 Phengite and paragonite are also the main B-bearing phases, so the same model can be applied
582 to B as with N. The decrease in B contents with decreasing Si contents can be explained by
583 redistribution of B into paragonite. The calculated final bulk B concentration is 28 µg/g, compared
584 to an initial concentration of 15–17 µg/g depending on the estimate of the phengite mode. This
585 suggests that in contrast with N, B has been added to the rock during fluid-rock interaction. This
586 may explain why there is more scatter in the correlation of [B] with Si p.f.u., compared to [N], as
587 individual grains have equilibrated to differing degrees with a B-rich fluid (Konrad-Schmolke and
588 Halama, 2014; Halama et al., 2020).

589 *5.4. Fluid-rock interaction in other samples*

590 Calculated bulk N concentrations in Cignana mafic rocks (samples LC-2a, LC-1b) are very low.
591 Sample LC-1b (1.2 µg/g N) falls within the range of N contents observed in fresh MORB, which is
592 generally <2 µg/g (Li et al., 2007; Busigny et al., 2005; Erzinger et al., 1996). Sample LC-2a has
593 slightly higher N contents (3.6 µg/g), which may reflect a more hydrothermally altered protolith
594 (Busigny et al., 2005; Li et al., 2007), or addition of minor N during subduction.

595 Sample LC-2a preserves variability in phengite major and trace element chemistry. The main
596 population has constant Si p.f.u. but variable N contents (39–123 µg/g). There are two grains with

597 higher, variable Si content, lower N (20–24 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and Li contents, and higher B content. The Si
598 contents of these grains overlap with those from sample LC-3, which were interpreted to record
599 peak metamorphism. Halama et al. (2020) previously interpreted B isotope data from LC-2a to
600 suggest that B was lost during retrograde fluid-rock interaction. The observed lower B contents and
601 lower Si contents in our analyses are consistent with this interpretation, where the low Si grains
602 formed during retrograde recrystallization and the high Si grains preserve peak conditions. The
603 elevated N and Li contents in low Si grains suggest that small amounts of N and Li were added
604 during retrograde fluid-rock interaction.

605 Previous studies on eclogites and blueschists from Jenner have suggested a complex metamorphic
606 history involving interaction with both sediment-derived (Sorensen et al., 1997; Penniston-Dorland
607 et al., 2010) and serpentinite-derived fluids (Errico et al., 2013). Jenner samples show high bulk N
608 contents (13–71 $\mu\text{g/g}$) compared to the range of both fresh MORB ($< 2 \mu\text{g/g}$) and altered oceanic
609 crust (1–30 $\mu\text{g/g}$, Li et al. (2007); Busigny et al. (2005)). The N concentrations in individual
610 phengite grains are similar to those from Raspas, but the Jenner samples contain higher phengite
611 modes, resulting in higher bulk N contents. High phengite mode is consistent with the bulk en-
612 richment in K and other large ion lithophile elements documented by Sorensen et al. (1997) and
613 attributed to interaction with a sediment-derived fluid. High N contents are also consistent with
614 a sediment-derived fluid, since subducted sediments can have N contents up to 2000 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (e.g.
615 Sadofsky and Bebout, 2004; Li and Bebout, 2005). The positive correlation of N and B contents in
616 phengite in samples JEN12-03 and JEN12-07 is also consistent with a sediment derived fluid, since
617 sediments can also contain high B contents (e.g. Romer et al., 2014; Bebout et al., 2013; De Hoog
618 and Savov, 2018). Negative correlation of [N] and [Li] in JEN12-07 and JEN12-09 suggests that
619 these sediment-derived fluids may be Li-poor.

620 These samples demonstrate that addition of N during metamorphism appears to be a common
621 process in subduction-related mafic rocks, in agreement with recent work which found that N
622 addition can occur as early as blueschist facies (Li et al., 2021). These fluids are most likely sourced
623 from dehydrating metasediments, as these are rich in N. Addition of N can be associated with either
624 addition or loss of Li and B, which suggests that these fluids can be heterogeneous in their Li and

625 B contents, possibly reflecting heterogeneity in the sediments themselves. Addition of N is seen in
626 phengite with high Si contents, which implies that it occurred during deep subduction and is not
627 a late-stage retrograde overprint. The presence of N and other fluid-mobile elements in sediment-
628 derived fluids at depths of up to ~90 km (in the case of Cignana, see our modelling in Section 5.2)
629 implies that these elements are at least partially retained to that depth, and can be mobilised and
630 redistributed there, rather than being completely lost during shallow dehydration reactions. This
631 emphasises the importance of understanding volatile element transfer between lithologies during
632 subduction, not just the effects of prograde devolatilisation, and shows that mafic rocks may act as
633 sinks for N and other volatiles during subduction-related metasomatism, if accompanied by growth
634 of mica.

635 6. Conclusions

636 This study demonstrates the viability of *in situ* analyses of N in silicate minerals using SIMS.
637 The data collected from a range of formerly subducted rocks show that N is dominantly hosted
638 in white micas, compared to phases such as omphacite or Na-amphibole. Chlorite may have an
639 additional role as a N host but more data are required to explore its role in a wider variety of local-
640 ities and lithologies. Reconstructed bulk N contents based on mineral modes and N concentrations
641 agree with bulk N contents measured by combustion, which confirms that most N is hosted in the
642 major rock-forming minerals. Using the N/K₂O ratio in white micas, and the K-content of the
643 subducted slab, we estimate the subducted flux of N in oceanic crust to be $0.6 - 2.4 \times 10^{11}$ g/yr,
644 which is similar to or slightly smaller than previous estimates. A case study of fluid-rock interac-
645 tion in a mineralogically simple garnet-phengite quartzite shows moderate N loss during fluid-rock
646 interaction. Using open system fluid-rock interaction equations we show that N is a moderately
647 fluid-mobile element under the P-T-X conditions experienced by this sample ($D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.1 - 1.5$).
648 A second fluid-rock interaction case study shows the importance of white mica stability in control-
649 ling the N budget of rocks. White mica growth during fluid-rock interaction can sequester N and
650 prevent significant bulk N loss. Our work provides constraints on the inter-mineral partitioning
651 of N at subduction zone conditions and provides the first natural constraints on the fluid-mineral

652 partitioning of N at these conditions. We emphasise the complexity of element mobility within
653 subduction zones, with redistribution between different phases and lithologies being important, in
654 addition to simple loss of volatiles during dehydration.

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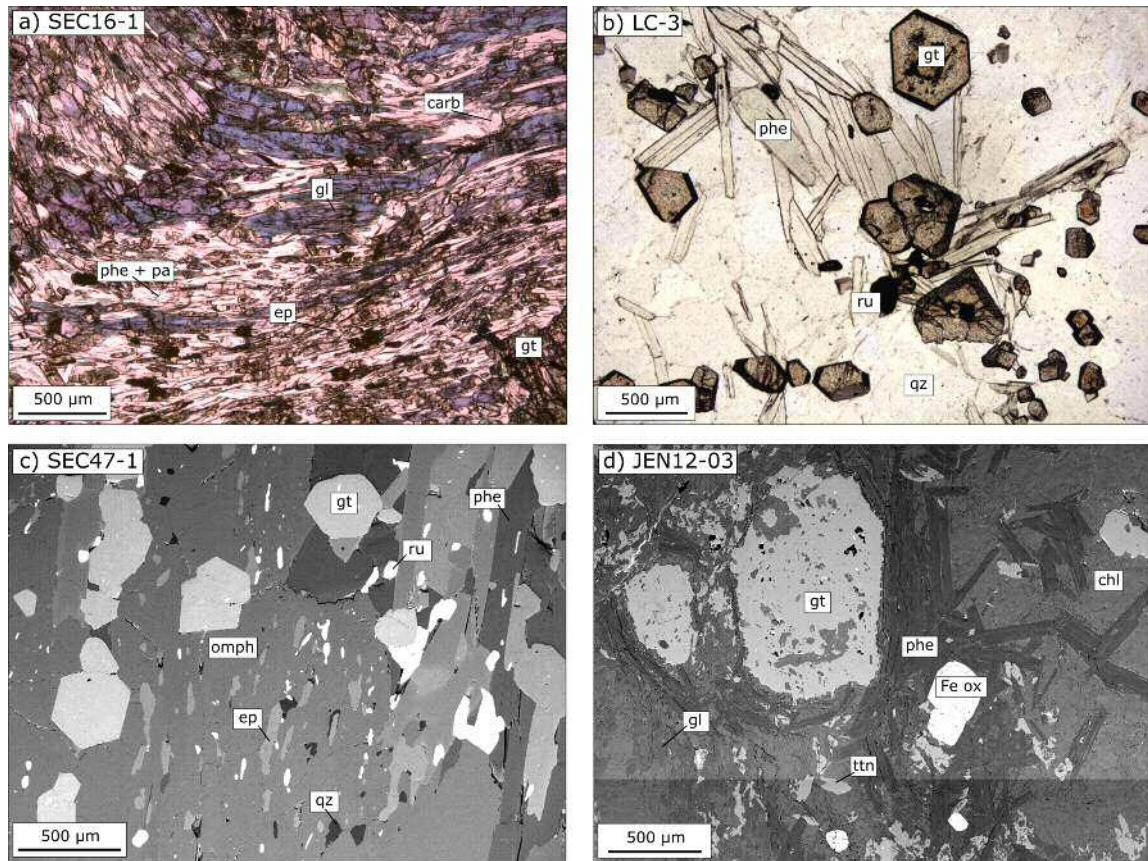


Figure 1: (a) Representative photomicrograph in plane polarised light of blueschist SEC16-1. (b) Representative photomicrograph in plane polarised light of garnet-phengite quartzite LC-3. (c) Representative back scattered electron image of eclogite SEC47-1. (d) Representative back scattered electron image of blueschist JEN12-03. Phe = phengite, pa= paragonite, gt = garnet, gl = glaucophane, ep = epidote, qz = quartz, ttn = titanite, chl = chlorite, omph = omphacite, Fe ox = iron oxide.

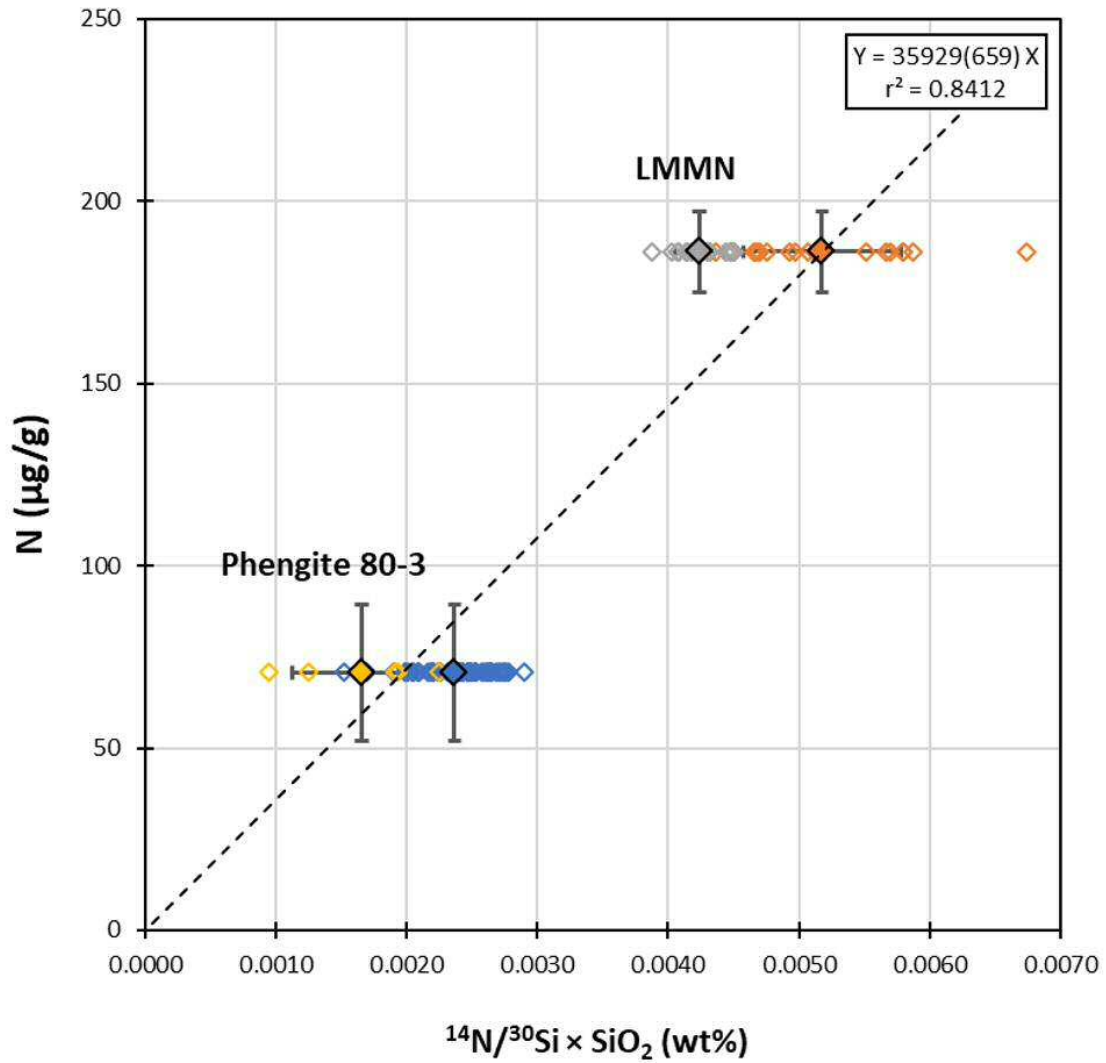


Figure 2: SIMS calibration of N concentrations based on two white mica standards (Phe80-3 and LMMN Busigny et al. (2003b, 2004)). All individual analytical spots ($n=70$) are indicated as well as averages with 1 σ uncertainties. The slope of the calibration slope is indicated, along with the 1 σ uncertainty in brackets.

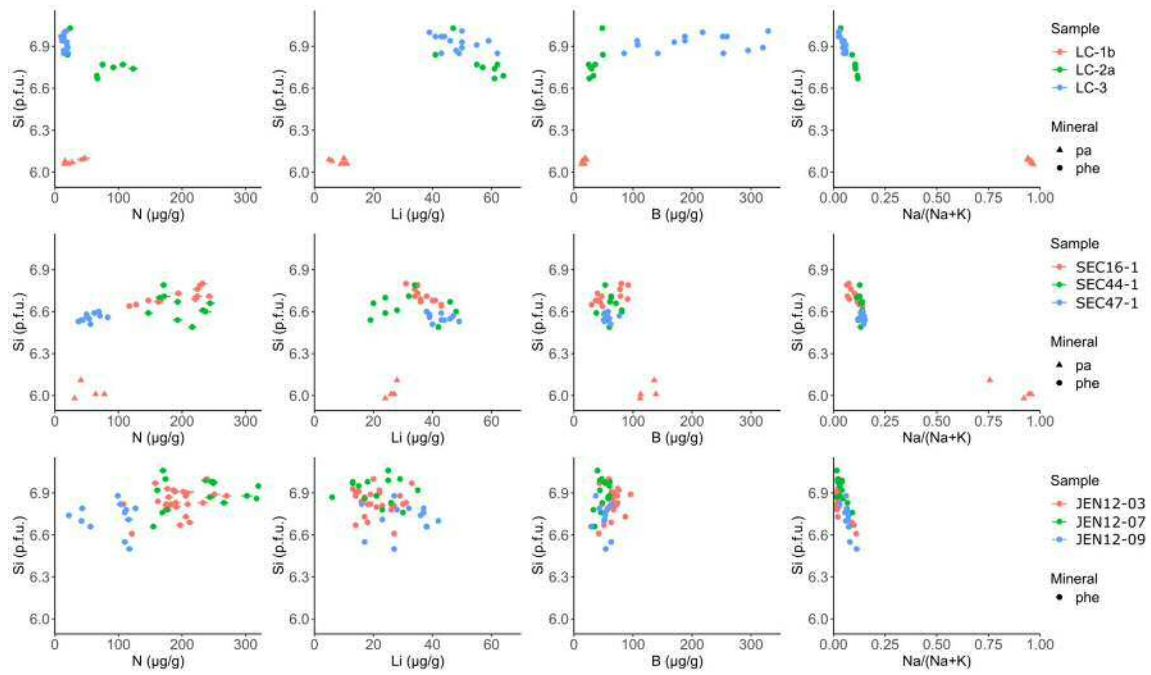


Figure 3: N, Li, B, Na/Na+K data vs Si p.f.u. for phengite and paragonite from each locality (top: Cignana, middle Rapas, bottom Jenner). 1s error bars are plotted. Where error bars are not shown, they are smaller than the size of the symbol.

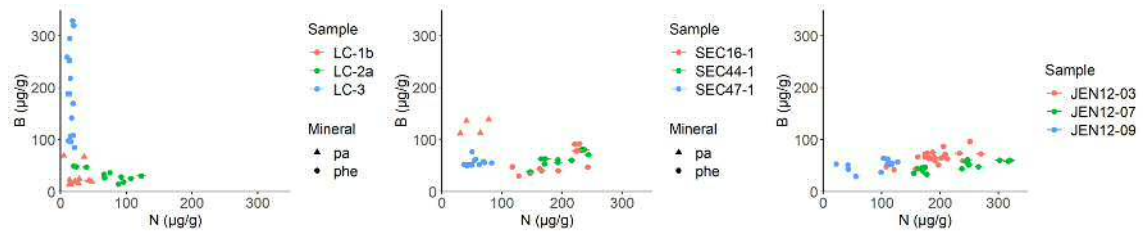


Figure 4: N vs B for phengite and paragonite from each locality (left: Cignana, middle Raspas, right Jenner). 1s error bars are plotted. Where error bars are not shown they are smaller than the size of the symbol.

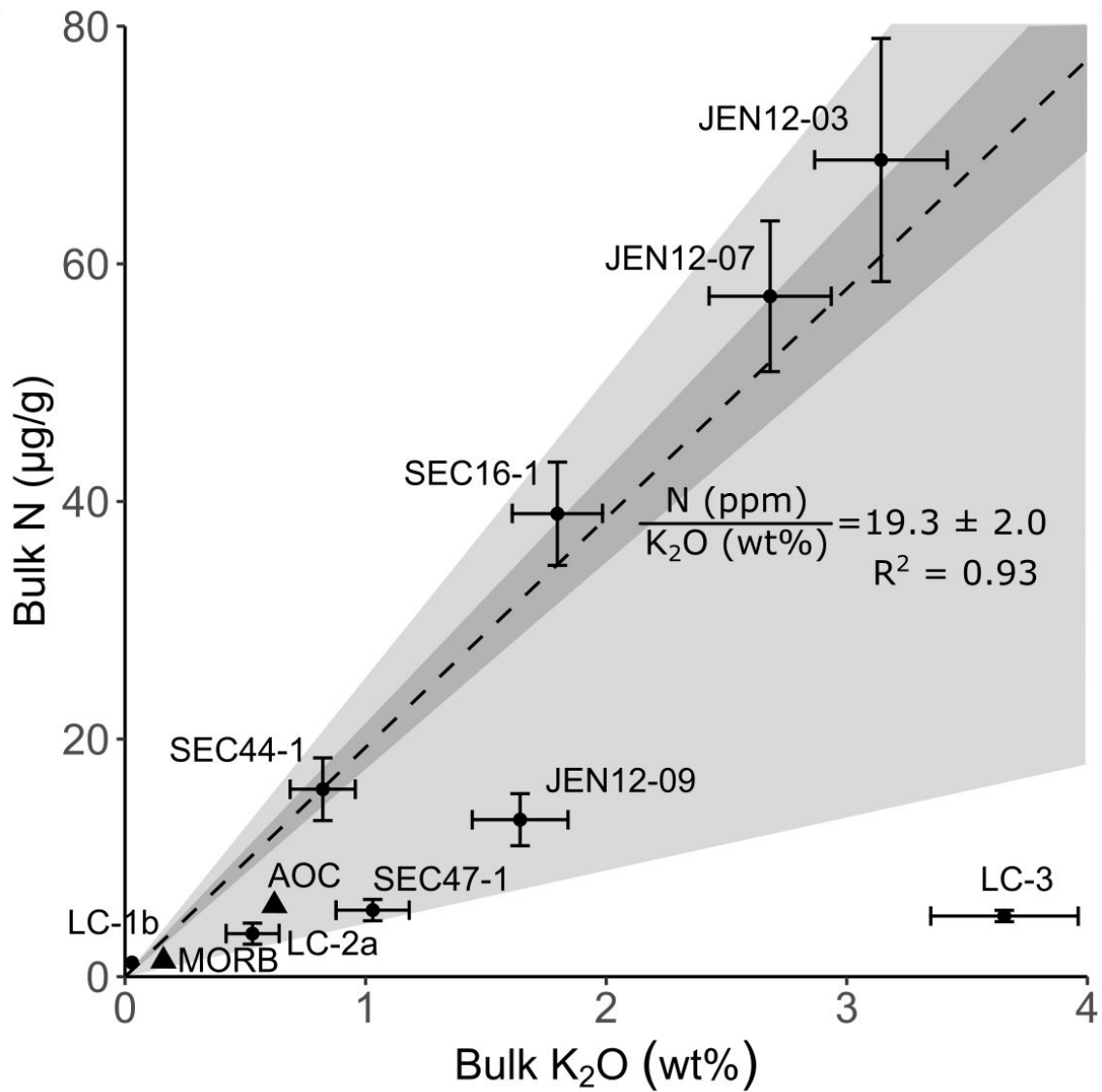


Figure 5: Calculated bulk K₂O and N contents for each sample. Average values for MORB and AOC (black triangles) are shown for comparison (Johnson and Goldblatt, 2015; Gale et al., 2013; Kelley et al., 2018). The average N/K₂O (excluding sample LC-3) is plotted as a dashed line with 1s uncertainty (dark grey). Upper and lower bounds are plotted in light grey.

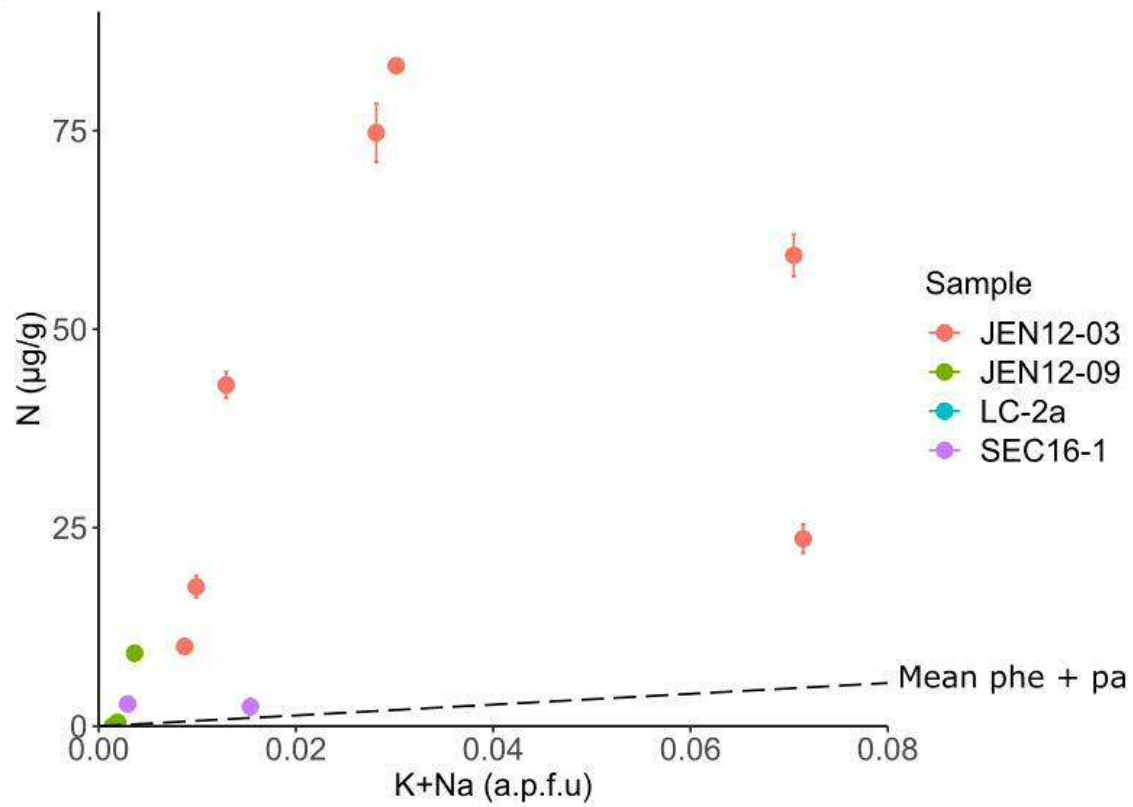


Figure 6: N versus K+Na plot for chlorite. Chlorites from sample JEN12-03 occur in the matrix alongside phengite, and have elevated K+Na and N contents. Chlorites from other samples occur as rims on garnets and contain little N, K or Na. A line showing the mean value for N/(K+Na) in phengite and paragonite is shown for comparison.

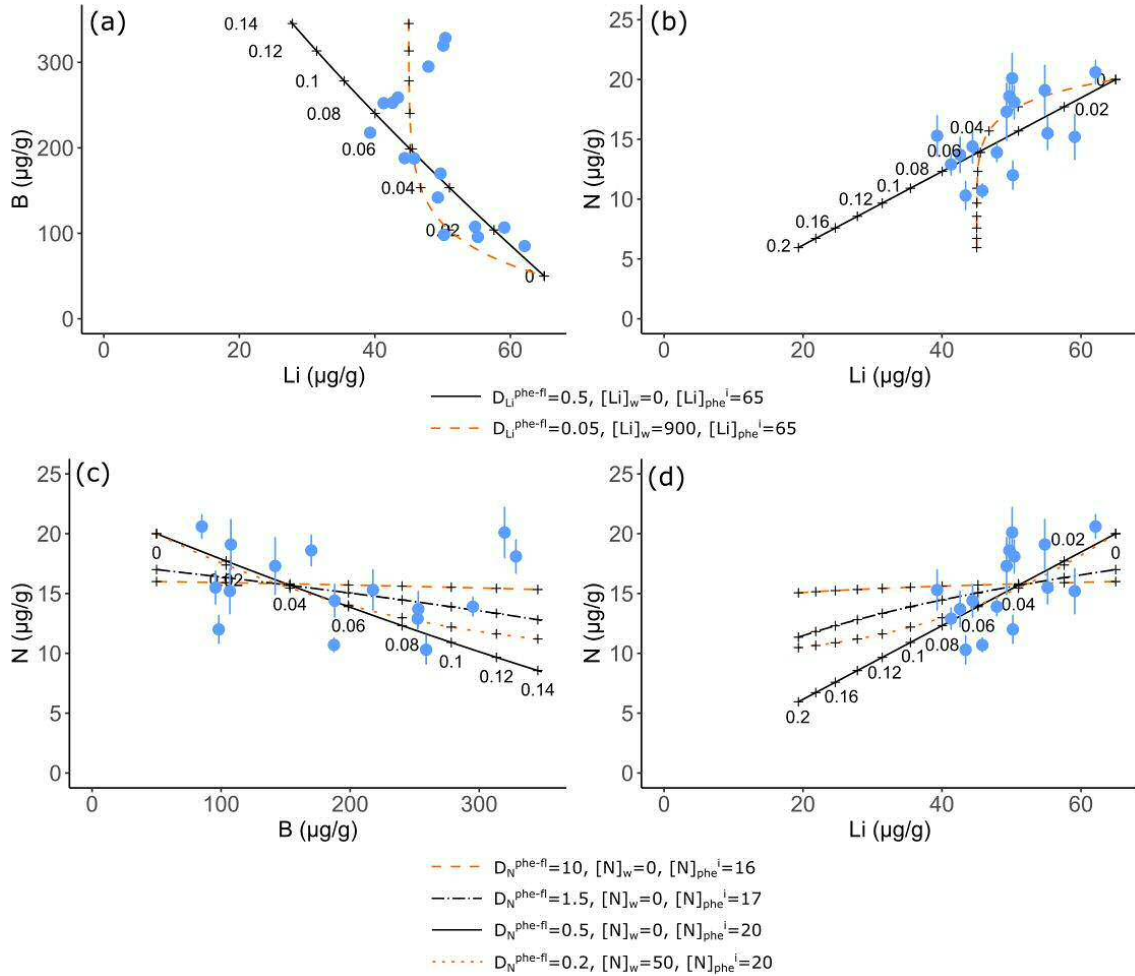


Figure 7: Fluid rock interaction modelling of phengite N-B-Li data from garnet-phengite quartzite (LC-3). Blue points are the measured data, and black lines show model outcomes for a range of different input parameters. 1s error bars are shown for N data. Error bars for B and Li are smaller than the size of the symbols. Boron input parameters were constrained from previous work (Halama et al., 2020). The top panel (a,b) shows two end member scenarios for Li modelling. The bottom panel (c,d) shows endmember scenarios for N modelling ($D_N = 10$ and $D_N = 0.2$) and two intermediate scenarios. See text for detailed explanation of modelling parameters (section 5.2).

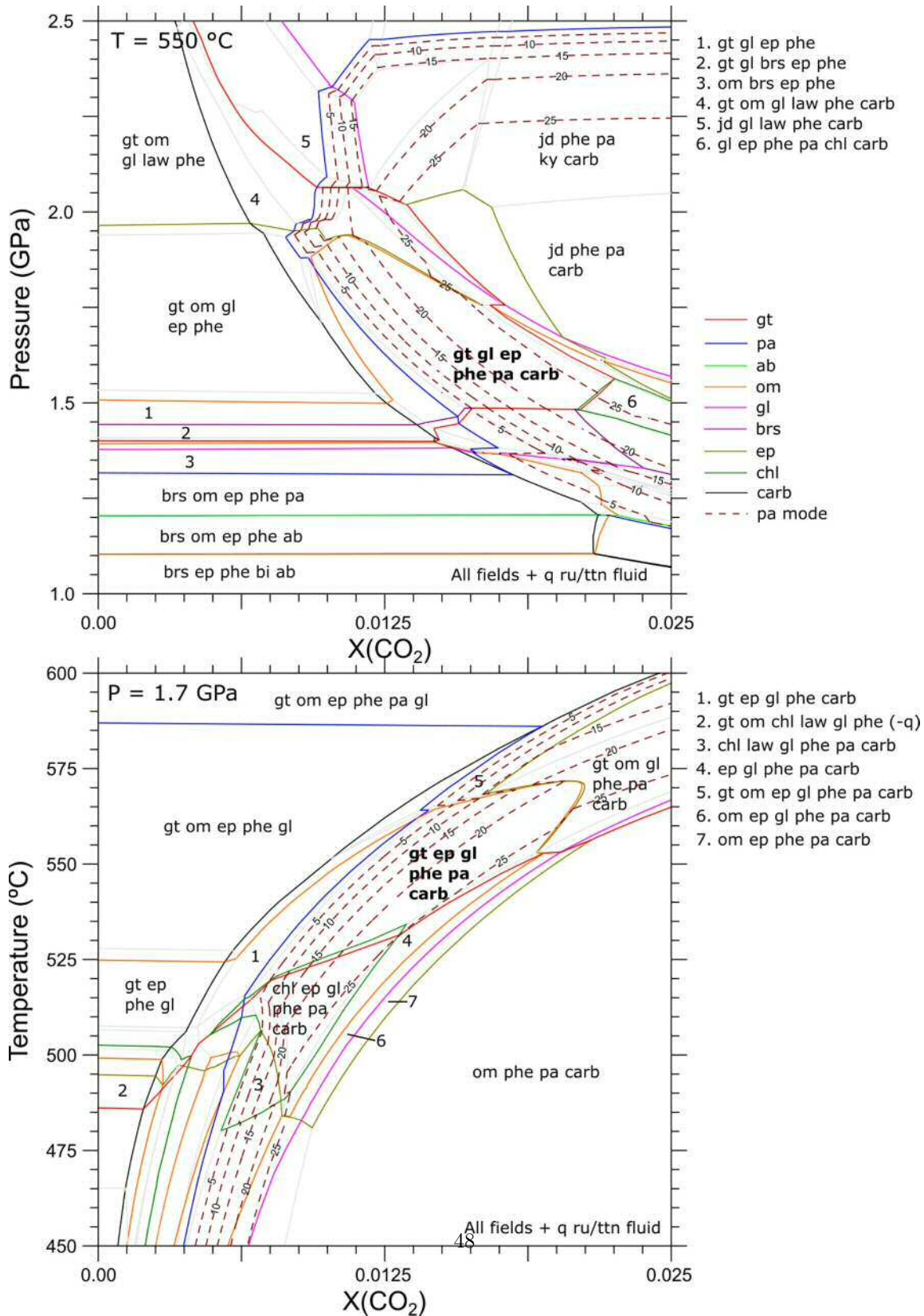


Figure 8: P-X(CO₂) and T-X(CO₂) equilibrium phase diagrams for sample SEC16-1. The observed assemblage is indicated in bold font. Gt = garnet, om = omphacite, jd = jadeite, gl = glaucophane (*sensu lato*), barrosite (*s.l.*), ep = epidote, phe = phengite, pa = paragonite, chl = chlorite, carb = carbonate, ab = albite, bi = biotite, law = lawsonite, ru = rutile, ttn = titanite.

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Sample	LC-3	LC-2a	LC-1b	SEC16-1	SEC44-1
Lithology	Gt-phe quartzite	Metagabbro	Eclogite	Blueschist	Eclogite
Phe mode (vol%)	33	5		16	8
Phe N ($\mu\text{g/g}$)	10–21 (16)	20–123 (72)		117–243 (190)	147–234 (203)
Pa mode			5	16	
Pa N			5.5–47 (24)	31–78 (54)	
Chl mode		<1		<1	
Chl N		1.2–4.9 (3.6)		1.0–2.8 (2.1)	
Calculated bulk N	5.1	3.6	1.2	39	16
1s	± 0.5	± 0.9	± 0.3	± 4	± 3
Measured bulk N				46	10
Sample	SEC47-1	JEN12-03	JEN12-07	JEN12-09	
Lithology	Eclogite	Blueschist	Blueschist	Eclogite	
Phe mode (vol%)	10	30	25	15	
Phe N ($\mu\text{g/g}$)	37–118 (61)	108–270 (193)	155–320 (229)	22–127 (88)	
Pa mode					
Pa N					
Chl mode		30		<1	
Chl N		10–83 (45)		0.0–9.2 (2.9)	
Calculated bulk N	5.6	71	57	13	
1s	± 0.9	± 10	± 6	± 2	
Measured bulk N	7.2				

Table 1: Mineral modes and N concentrations, and calculated bulk N contents for the nine samples in this study. N contents are given as a range followed by the mean in brackets. Three samples have measured bulk N contents (Halama et al., 2010), which are consistent with the calculated results. The procedure for calculating 1s uncertainties is described in Section 4.3 and the full data set is provided in the electronic supplement.

	Li	B	N	<i>n</i>
SEC44-1				
Phe	19–48 (32)	38–81 (63)	147–244 (197)	10
Cpx	94–110 (104)	2.3–3.3 (2.9)	1.8–3.0 (2.4)	4
D ^{phe/cpx}	0.31	22	81	
SEC47-1				
Phe	38–83 (46)	50–100 (61)	37–118 (61)	11
Cpx	142	3.0	3.0	1
Ep			1–2 (1.1)	2
D ^{phe/cpx}	0.32	18	22	
D ^{phe/ep}			55	
SEC16-1				
Phe	31–46 (37)	30–92 (59)	117–243 (190)	14
Pa	24–28 (26)	93–139 (119)	31–118 (66)	4
Gl	132–169 (151)	3.9–4.9 (4.4)	3.9–4.4 (4.1)	2
D ^{phe/pa}	1.5	0.49	2.9	
D ^{phe/gl}	0.25	13	46	
JEN12-09				
Phe	16–42 (30)	29–64 (51)	22–127 (88)	12
Cpx	46–55 (51)	1.2–1.3 (1.3)	1.5–1.9 (1.7)	2
D ^{phe/cpx}	0.60	41	52	

Table 2: Inter-mineral partition coefficients for Li, B and N. Mineral compositions are given in $\mu\text{g/g}$ as a range with a mean value in brackets. The number of analyses (*n*) is also listed. Partition coefficients are calculated from the mean values.

	P (GPa)	T (°C)	$D^{\text{phe-fl}}$	$D^{\text{bi-fl}}$	$D^{\text{bi-phe}}$
Förster et al. (2019)	2	750	10		
Förster et al. (2019) *	3	800–1000	0.5–1.1	0.2–1.6	1.5–3.1
Pöter et al. (2004)	0.4	400–600	0.12–0.15		3.5
Pöter et al. (2004)	1.5	400–600	0.19–0.20		
Jackson et al. (2021) *	0.2–2.3	725–925		0.01–0.4	
Moine et al. (1994)	0.2	550		~0.5	
Honma and Itihara (1981) **	~ 0.4	~ 700			1.5–3.1
Duit et al. (1986) **	~ 0.5	500–700			2.2–4.2
Busigny et al. (2004) **					2.6–3.3

Table 3: Summary of available partitioning data for nitrogen between aqueous fluid and micas (phengite and biotite). Most data are from subsolidus experiments but data indicated with a * are from suprasolidus experiments. Some natural data on biotite-phengite partitioning are also included (**).

1 The behaviour of nitrogen during subduction of oceanic crust:
2 insights from *in situ* SIMS analyses of high-pressure rocks

3 B.J.R. Harris^{a,*}, J.C.M. de Hoog^a, R. Halama^b

4 ^a*Grant Institute, University of Edinburgh, James Hutton Road, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, EH9 3FE*

5 ^b*School of Geography, Geology and the Environment, Keele University, Keele, Staffordshire, United Kingdom, ST5*
6 *5BG*

*Corresponding author: b.j.r.harris@sms.ed.ac.uk

7 **Abstract**

8 Understanding the Earth’s geological nitrogen (N) cycle requires an understanding of how N be-
9 haves during dehydration of subducted crust. We present the first *in situ* measurements of N in
10 silicate minerals by secondary ion mass spectrometry, focusing on high pressure rocks representing
11 subducted oceanic crust. We investigate the distribution of N between mineral phases, and com-
12 bine analyses of N with other trace and major elements in order to constrain the behaviour of N
13 during fluid-rock interaction. The data confirm that white mica (phengite, paragonite) is the pri-
14 mary host for N, containing up to 320 $\mu\text{g/g}$, whereas minerals including clinopyroxene, amphibole
15 and epidote contain $< 5 \mu\text{g/g}$ N. Chlorite can also contain N (up to 83 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and may play a
16 previously unrecognised role in subduction zone N cycling. Bulk rock N concentrations estimated
17 from mineral N concentrations and mineral modes are consistent with N concentrations measured
18 by bulk combustion, which confirms that most N is hosted within silicate minerals and not along
19 grain boundaries or in fluid inclusions. Bulk rock N contents correlate with K_2O ($\text{N}/\text{K}_2\text{O} = 19.3 \pm$
20 2.0). Using $\text{N}/\text{K}_2\text{O}$ ratios and the average K_2O of altered oceanic crust, the flux of N subducted in
21 oceanic crust is estimated to be $0.6 - 2.4 \times 10^{11}$ g/yr, which is consistent with but at the lower end
22 of previous estimates. The data were also used to investigate the behaviour of N during fluid-rock
23 interaction. Open system fluid-rock interaction modelling was used to model the evolution of N,
24 B and Li contents during fluid-rock interaction in phengite from a garnet-phengite quartzite. By
25 comparison to data for B and Li, the phengite-fluid partition coefficient for N was estimated to be
26 0.1–1.5. Separately, the growth of paragonite during fluid-rock interaction in a blueschist was shown
27 to sequester N from phengite and limit bulk N loss to the fluid. The stability of white mica during
28 fluid-rock interaction is therefore critical in controlling the behaviour of N. Nitrogen addition from
29 sediment-derived fluids appears to be an important process in subduction zone rocks. Mafic crust
30 can act as a sink for this N if white mica is stable. This work provides the first natural constraints
31 on the fluid-mineral partitioning behaviour of N at subduction zone conditions and emphasises the
32 complexity of N mobility within subduction zones, with redistribution between different phases and
33 lithologies being important.

34 1. Introduction

35 The Earth's atmosphere is presently composed of 78% nitrogen and is essential for the habit-
36 ability of the planet. There is considerable debate over the long-term evolution of the mass of N
37 in the atmosphere (e.g. Mallik et al., 2018; Som et al., 2016; Wordsworth, 2016; Barry and Hilton,
38 2016; Busigny et al., 2011; Marty et al., 2013; Som et al., 2012; Berner, 2006; Avice et al., 2018) and
39 it is therefore necessary to quantify the flux of N between the surface and deep-seated reservoirs,
40 primarily the mantle. Subduction zones are the primary locations where N from the Earth's surface
41 is returned to the mantle, and therefore studies which explore the behaviour of N during subduction
42 are of importance to resolving the long-term N cycle. Previous studies of N in subduction-related
43 rocks have focused on whole rock analyses, with a particular focus on N isotopic work (e.g. Epstein
44 et al., 2021; Halama et al., 2010, 2014; Bebout et al., 2013; Busigny et al., 2011, 2003a; Halama
45 et al., 2017). Suites of subducted metasediments have shown little N loss up to 90 km depth in
46 cold subduction zones (Busigny et al., 2003a; Bebout et al., 2013), but substantial losses in warm
47 subduction zones (Bebout and Fogel, 1992; Haendel et al., 1986; Mingram and Bräuer, 2001), with
48 differing implications for the recycling of N over Earth's history. Basalts and gabbros representing
49 oceanic crust ($\sim 1\text{--}30\ \mu\text{g/g N}$) have lower N contents than sediments ($\sim 100\text{--}2000\ \mu\text{g/g N}$) but the
50 mass of subducted oceanic crust is an order of magnitude higher than of sediments. Considering av-
51 erage values for oceanic crust and sediment N concentrations, their contributions to the subducted
52 N flux are comparable, although oceanic crust is less well constrained (Halama et al., 2010; Busigny
53 et al., 2011; Li et al., 2007). Overall uncertainty in the global N recycling flux is on the order of
54 50–100% (Johnson and Goldblatt, 2015) due to the variable N contents of subducted lithologies
55 and the lack of understanding of the processes controlling N recycling.

56 Nitrogen in rocks is primarily hosted as ammonium (NH_4^+), which substitutes for potassium
57 and, to a lesser extent, sodium and calcium (Honma and Itihara, 1981). Micas are the dominant
58 host of K in metasediments, and correlations between bulk K and N contents have been used to
59 confirm that white micas are the main host for N (e.g. Bebout et al., 2013; Busigny et al., 2003a).
60 High N contents of up to $1700\ \mu\text{g/g}$ have been measured in micas from metasediments (Busigny
61 et al., 2003b, 2004; Sadofsky and Bebout, 2000). For metabasic rocks that contain white mica,

62 correlated bulk N, Cs and Ba concentrations also suggested that N resides in the mica (Halama
63 et al., 2010). However, a weak correlation of N with CaO + Na₂O in mica-free metabasic rocks
64 may suggest that in these lithologies, N is hosted in Ca- and Na-bearing minerals (Busigny et al.,
65 2011).

66 Nitrogen is regarded as a moderately fluid-mobile element. Several studies on rocks that have
67 undergone extensive fluid-rock interaction have shown up to 60% loss of bulk N in metasomatised
68 rocks compared to the country rock, in response to white mica dissolution or recrystallization during
69 fluid-rock interaction (Halama et al., 2017; Epstein et al., 2021). Experimental data on fluid-mineral
70 partition coefficients for N at subduction zone pressure-temperature conditions are sparse and values
71 are not consistent between studies (Table 3, Pöter et al. (2004); Förster et al. (2019); Jackson
72 et al. (2021); Li et al. (2015)). There is agreement between these studies that increasing pressure
73 leads to NH₄⁺ becoming more compatible in both phengite and biotite, compared to an aqueous
74 fluid, because NH₄⁺ is thermodynamically favoured over N₂ at higher pressures (Förster et al.,
75 2019; Pöter et al., 2004; Jackson et al., 2021). The effect of temperature is smaller but increasing
76 temperature leads to NH₄⁺ becoming more compatible in phengite, compared to an aqueous fluid
77 (Förster et al., 2019; Pöter et al., 2004). and less compatible in biotite (Förster et al., 2019; Jackson
78 et al., 2021). The reasons for this are not fully understood. NH₄⁺ is overall more compatible in
79 biotite than muscovite over a wide range of P-T conditions, with values for $D_{\text{NH}_4^+}^{\text{biotite-muscovite}}$ from
80 1.5–4.2 (Sadofsky and Bebout, 2000; Busigny et al., 2004; Duit et al., 1986; Honma and Itihara,
81 1981; Pöter et al., 2004; Förster et al., 2019).

82 *In situ* data can provide new constraints on the partitioning of N between different minerals,
83 reveal heterogeneities or zoning, and can be combined with thermodynamic and geochemical mod-
84 elling to understand the behaviour of N during metamorphism and fluid-rock interaction. Previous
85 *in situ* analyses of N contents were limited to a small number measurements of large white mica
86 and biotite grains in metasediments by Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy with a 100 µm
87 beam size (Busigny et al., 2003b,a, 2004). Few studies have compared N contents of minerals to
88 other major or trace elements, or to textural features of the samples. *In situ* analyses of other
89 fluid-mobile elements (e.g. B, F, Cl, LILE) in subduction-related samples have been successful in

90 constraining the inter-mineral partitioning behaviour of these elements, understanding their be-
91 haviour during metamorphic reactions and fluid-rock interaction, and constraining the amount of
92 recycling of these elements into the mantle during subduction (e.g. Marschall et al., 2006; Urann
93 et al., 2020; Halama et al., 2020; Debret et al., 2016; Bebout et al., 2007; De Hoog et al., 2014;
94 Clarke et al., 2020). In this study we aim to: 1) explore the residency of N in different minerals
95 in a suite of high pressure rocks representing formerly subducted oceanic crust; 2) combine *in situ*
96 measurements of N concentrations with other trace and major elements to explore the behaviour
97 of N during metamorphic fluid-rock interaction. Improved D values and mineral residency of N
98 will allow more detailed modeling of N behaviour during subduction and eventually more accurate
99 models of the long-term global N cycle in deep time.

100 **2. Geological background and sample descriptions**

101 *2.1. Lago di Cignana, Italy*

102 At Lago di Cignana, NW Italy, meta-ophiolites of the Zermatt-Saas Zone (ZSZ) are tectonically
103 juxtaposed with a coesite- and diamond-bearing UHP metamorphic unit, the Lago di Cignana Unit
104 (LCU) (Groppo et al., 2009). The LCU comprises eclogites, alongside metasediments including im-
105 pure marbles and quartzites, and calcschists. Peak metamorphism of the LCU occurred at ~ 600 °C,
106 2.7–3.2 GPa (Groppo et al., 2009; Reinecke, 1998), and was dated to 44 Ma by zircon U-Pb (Rubatto
107 et al., 1998). The ZSZ comprises mantle serpentinites and eclogitic gabbros, which experienced a
108 similar P-T-t history to the LCU (Groppo et al., 2009). REE patterns of eclogites from both the
109 LCU and ZSZ indicate a MORB protolith (Halama et al., 2010; Dal Piaz et al., 1981).

110 The samples from Lago di Cignana have been described previously (Halama et al., 2020) but a
111 brief description is reproduced here.

112 LC-3 is a garnet-phengite-quartzite (metachert) containing garnet, phengite and quartz as major
113 phases, and accessory amphibole, biotite, rutile and opaques (Figure 1b). Garnet is euhedral, 100–
114 500 μm in diameter and zoned, with Mn and Mg-enriched cores and Fe and Ca-enriched rims.
115 Phengite occurs as 300–1500 μm flakes, which are preferentially aligned to define a weak foliation.

116 LC-1b is an eclogite containing garnet, omphacite, blue amphibole, epidote, paragonite and
117 quartz. Paragonite occurs as needles, which are sometimes associated with rhombic pseudomorphs
118 after lawsonite, formed during early retrograde decompression (Groppo et al., 2009).

119 LC-2a is a metagabbro. Omphacite, phengite, epidote, albite and chlorite are major phases, with
120 accessory amphibole, titanite and rutile. This sample has been interpreted as showing pervasive
121 retrogression into the greenschist-facies from a former high-pressure assemblage.

122 *2.2. Raspas Complex, Ecuador*

123 The Raspas Complex in southwest Ecuador exposes an high pressure terrane representing for-
124 merly subducted oceanic lithosphere (Arculus et al., 1999; Feininger, 1980). It includes eclogites and
125 blueschists of the Raspas Formation, which occur alongside garnet-chloritoid-kyanite metapelites.
126 All three lithologies record similar peak pressure-temperature conditions of 550–600 °C, 1.5–2 GPa
127 (John et al., 2010; Gabriele et al., 2003). The age of metamorphism was dated to ~130 Ma, using
128 Lu-Hf methods (John et al., 2010). Lithological differences between the blueschists and eclogites
129 are ascribed to differences in bulk composition, with the blueschists being enriched in K₂O and
130 Al₂O₃, and depleted in CaO, MgO and FeO. Geochemical analysis of the eclogites suggests that
131 their protoliths were typical mid-ocean-ridge-basalts (MORB), with LREE-depleted REE patterns.
132 Blueschists show LREE-enrichment, which has been interpreted as evidence of a seamount-type
133 protolith (John et al., 2010). The samples from the Raspas Complex have not been described indi-
134 vidually, but descriptions of each lithology are given in (John et al., 2010).

135 SEC16-1 is a blueschist containing garnet, Na-amphibole, phengite, paragonite, epidote, apatite,
136 and calcium carbonate, with accessory chlorite (Figure 1a). Garnets (500–1500 μm) preserve an
137 original euhedral outline but are sometimes corroded at the rims. A strong foliation is defined by
138 preferential alignment of Na-amphibole, epidote, phengite and paragonite in the matrix. Epidote
139 occurs also as elongate inclusions in garnet, which are aligned with the external foliation. Some
140 apatite grains are elongate and aligned with the foliation. Chlorite occurs along fractures in garnet
141 and at corroded rims.

142 SEC44-1 is an eclogite containing garnet, omphacite, phengite and quartz as major phases, and

143 accessory Na-amphibole, rutile and apatite. Subhedral to euhedral garnets (100–600 μm) cluster
144 in garnet-rich (up to 50 %) layers up to 3 mm thick. The matrix consists of subhedral omphacite
145 and rutile, randomly oriented phengite flakes, which are often rectangular, and interstitial quartz.
146 Intergrowths of lobate quartz with Na-amphibole occur in low abundance, usually in proximity to
147 garnet.

148 SEC47-1 is an eclogite containing garnet, omphacite, phengite, quartz, Na-amphibole and epi-
149 dote as major phases, with accessory rutile (Figure 1c). Subhedral to euhedral garnet (50–400 μm)
150 occurs in garnet-rich (up to 80 %) layers up to 4 mm thick. Preferential alignment of epidote,
151 Na-amphibole, omphacite and phengite define a weak foliation, which is sub-parallel to the garnet
152 layering. Quartz and rutile also occur in the matrix.

153 *2.3. Jenner, California*

154 Eclogite and blueschist blocks at Jenner, California, occur as part of the Franciscan Complex,
155 a subducted-related melange complex in NW California. Samples were collected just north of the
156 mouth of the Russian River about 1.5 km west of Jenner. These blocks occur loose on the beach, or
157 within a sandstone-shale-rich matrix, which is interpreted as a recent landslide deposit (Raymond,
158 2017). The presence of Mg-rich metasomatic rinds, and geochemical signatures within the blocks,
159 have been used to infer a former serpentinite melange host (Errico et al., 2013). Enrichment
160 in large ion lithophile elements (LILE) and low ϵ_{Nd} and $\delta^7\text{Li}$ values in some blocks has been
161 used to infer an additional sediment-derived fluid source (Sorensen et al., 1997; Penniston-Dorland
162 et al., 2010). Peak metamorphic assemblages in eclogite and blueschist facies are identified in the
163 least retrograded samples and record conditions of $\sim 450\text{--}500$ $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 1–1.5 GPa (Krogh et al., 1994).
164 Prograde to peak garnet growth was dated to c. 158 Ma using Lu-Hf methods (Anczkiewicz et al.,
165 2004). Many samples are retrograded to a lower temperature assemblage (~ 400 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 1 GPa), along
166 a counterclockwise P-T path, which is attributed to secular cooling of the subduction zone. Whole
167 rock major element and immobile trace element compositions are similar to MORB (Penniston-
168 Dorland et al., 2010; Sorensen et al., 1997).

169 JEN12-03 is a blueschist containing garnet, Na-amphibole, omphacite, phengite, titanite, chlo-

170 rite and quartz, with accessory iron oxides (Figure 1d). Three textural domains are identified.
171 Rare omphacite-rich domains suggest a former eclogite facies assemblage. Large domains comprise
172 a matrix of glaucophane, titanite, phengite, quartz and minor chlorite, with garnet occurring as
173 porphyroblasts (up to 700 μm diameter). Garnets preserve an original euhedral outline but are cor-
174 roded around the rims. A third domain is dominated by phengite flakes and fine grained chlorite.
175 In all domains phengite occurs mostly as randomly oriented laths. Around 5 % of the phengite
176 comprises rectangular to rhomboid grains, which are zoned in back scattered electron images.

177 JEN12-07 is a blueschist containing garnet, Na-amphibole, phengite, epidote and titanite, with
178 accessory Fe-sulphides, apatite, quartz and chlorite. The matrix consists of aligned Na-amphibole,
179 epidote, titanite and phengite, which define a foliation. Phengite also occurs as large (up to 500
180 μm) randomly oriented laths. Garnet occurs as 1–2.5 mm porphyroblasts with inclusions of Na-
181 amphibole, epidote, titanite, quartz and chlorite, which preserve a foliation that is rotated relative
182 to the external foliation.

183 JEN12-09 is an eclogite containing garnet, omphacite, phengite, epidote and titanite, with
184 accessory chlorite, rutile, and quartz. The matrix consists of omphacite, phengite, epidote and
185 titanite. Garnet occurs as 0.5–3 mm subhedral to euhedral porphyroblasts, containing inclusions
186 of omphacite, phengite, quartz and rutile. Chlorite occurs only on the rims of garnets. Phengite
187 also occurs as up to 500 μm long grains in a 2 mm thick vein.

188 [Figure 1 about here.]

189 **3. Analytical methods**

190 *3.1. Major element contents*

191 Mineral compositions of some samples (see supplementary material) were determined using a
192 Cameca SX100 electron microprobe equipped with 5 wavelength dispersive spectrometers (WDS) at
193 the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, UK. Acceleration voltage was 20 kV,
194 beam current was 20 nA and beam diameter was 5 μm . On-peak counting times (seconds) for
195 elements were as follows (background time in brackets): K 10 (5), Na 10 (5), Mg 30 (15), Si 10

196 (5), Al 30 (15), Fe 40 (20), Ca 20 (10), Ti 60 (30), Mn 90 (45). A variety of synthetic and natural
197 standards were used for calibration and a PAP matrix correction was applied. Other samples
198 were analysed using a JEOL JXA 8900R electron microprobe at the University of Kiel, Germany.
199 Elements were measured 15 s on peak and 7 s on background with an acceleration voltage of 15 kV,
200 beam current of 15 na and beam diameter of 5 μm . Natural standards were used for calibration
201 and a CITZAF matrix correction was applied. EPMA spots were located as close as possible to the
202 corresponding SIMS spots.

203 3.2. Nitrogen, volatile and trace element contents

204 Nitrogen contents of minerals were determined *in situ* by Secondary Ion Mass Spectroscopy
205 (SIMS) at the Edinburgh Ion Microprobe Facility using a Cameca 7f-GEO with Hyperion source.
206 Standard polished thin sections were cut to 25 mm rounds and gold-coated prior to loading into
207 high vacuum (ca. 3×10^{-9} mbar). The sample surface was sputtered with a focused $^{16}\text{O}^-$ beam
208 with a 18 nA beam current and an impact energy of 13.5 keV. Spot size was about 15 μm . One spot
209 was analysed per grain, except where core and rim spots were analysed and reported separately.
210 Prior to each analysis the analytical area was pre-sputtered for 120 s using a 15 μm beam raster to
211 avoid background contamination. An effective field aperture of 20 μm was used to further reduce
212 N backgrounds to <0.4 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Positive secondary ions sputtered from the sample were accelerated
213 into a mass spectrometer and counted with an electron multiplier. An energy window of 50 ± 20 V
214 was applied to the secondary ion beam to reduce potential matrix effects. A mass resolution of
215 2000 ($M/\Delta M$) was used to avoid interferences of $^{28}\text{Si}^{2+}$ and $^{12}\text{CH}_2^+$ on the $^{14}\text{N}^+$ signal, as well
216 as $^7\text{Li}^{28}\text{Si}$ and $^{19}\text{F}^{16}\text{O}$ on ^{35}Cl . The mass calibration was updated at the start of each analysis
217 using an automated peak centering routine on the ^{30}Si peak. The following isotopes were measured
218 (total counting times per analysis in seconds in brackets): ^7Li (18), ^{11}B (30), $^{28}\text{Si}^{2+}$ (12), ^{14}N (60),
219 ^{19}F (30), ^{26}Mg (12), ^{30}Si (12), ^{35}Cl (60). The ^{30}Si signal was used for internal standardisation
220 using known SiO_2 contents measured by EPMA. As the wrong peak for ^{35}Cl was selected during
221 the initial run, all analytical spots were repeated in a separate routine measuring ^{26}Mg , ^{30}Si and
222 ^{35}Cl only, with other analytical parameters kept identical to the original run. Phengite mica 80-3

223 (71±19 µg/g N) and muscovite LMMN (186±11 µg/g N) were used for calibration of the N contents
224 (Busigny et al., 2003b, 2004), St8.1.A9 basaltic glass for Cl (Lesne et al., 2011), Fba-5 basaltic glass
225 for F (Guggino and Hervig, 2011), and GSD1-G basaltic glass for remaining elements (Jochum
226 et al., 2005), the results of which are presented in the electronic supplement. ¹⁴N count rates were
227 low, equalling to a relative ion yield (RIY) compared to Si of ca. 0.002, which is why this element
228 is not commonly measured, but signals were high enough to give acceptable counting statistics
229 with the analytical conditions used. For example, for standard LMMN#2 (186 µg/g N), the ¹⁴N
230 count rate was ca. 35 count per second, for a total of 2100 counts for the whole analysis (60s for
231 ¹⁴N) and a standard deviation of 2.2% based on counting statistics. This is nearly identical to
232 the 1s uncertainty based on the 6 repeat cycles for each analyses (internal precision), which was
233 2.4%, indicating that analytical uncertainty was dominated by counting statistics. Repeatability
234 (external precision) of this standard was 4.3% (n=16, see Supplementary Table), so about double the
235 internal precision, which is probably mostly related to slight heterogeneity of the standard and/or
236 instrumental factors. 1s uncertainties presented in the figures is based on the propagated uncertainty
237 of the measurements (internal precision) and the uncertainty of the slope of the calibration line
238 (Figure 2). The measurement of molecular species such as ¹⁴N¹⁶O or ²⁸Si¹⁴N was explored in the
239 course of this study, but did not yield any advantage, as with the positive secondary ion beam
240 used in our setup the yield of these species was lower than the ¹⁴N signal. This contrasts results in
241 negative ion mode, where an advantage was observed (Füri et al., 2018), resulting in lower detection
242 limits, but considering our ¹⁴N count rates were sufficient for the material under investigation, we
243 preferred to be able to analyse other fluid-mobile elements at the same time as N. The two LMMN
244 grains gave slightly different averages (187±22 and 153±7 µg/g, respectively, with n=20), the first
245 grain containing areas with higher N contents (Figure 2). MgO contents (0.8 wt%) also showed
246 about 10% variation, indicating some heterogeneity in this material (Figure 2). Multiple repeats of
247 the Phe80-3 standard showed 13% variation (1s) in N content, which suggests some heterogeneity in
248 this material as well, as it is much higher than the rsd for individual analyses (3%) and repeatability
249 of LMMN grain #2 (4%). Thus, the overall added uncertainty due to calibration uncertainty is ca.
250 15% Furthermore, we obtained a value of 17±0.4 µg/g N (n=2) on muscovite ms98973, for which no

251 N data has been published. Basaltic glasses GSD1-G and BCR2-G both showed concentrations of
252 about 1.5 ± 0.5 $\mu\text{g/g}$ N, which is only slightly higher than what we measured for quartz (0.4 $\mu\text{g/g}$). As
253 it is possible that these materials contain small amounts of N, no background correction was applied.
254 Muscovite ms98973 (Dyar et al., 2001) was intended to be used as a secondary standard to detect
255 potential matrix effects between basaltic glass and white mica, but we found that our concentrations
256 for B (23 – 35 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and particularly Cl (31 ± 13 $\mu\text{g/g}$) are very far from published values (180 and
257 700 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively; Dyar et al. (2001)), as well as highly heterogeneous. Fluorine was more
258 homogeneous and our value of 12840 ± 45 $\mu\text{g/g}$ is in reasonable agreement with the published value
259 of 16800 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Dyar et al. (2001). We also analysed two micas from Martin et al. (2015), namely
260 JJE01-X-3 mica and MVE02-8-5 mica to evaluate their use as potential N standards. However,
261 although N contents were high, unfortunately they were also extremely heterogeneous for N, Li and
262 B (see electronic supplement).

263 [Figure 2 about here.]

264 4. Results

265 4.1. Major element mineral chemistry and N, B, Li concentrations in white mica

266 4.1.1. Lago di Cignana

267 Garnet-phengite quartzite sample LC-3 contains phengite with Si contents from 6.85 – 7.00 p.f.u.
268 and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ from 0.02 – 0.06 (Figure 3). There is a strong negative correlation between Si p.f.u.
269 and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$. Nitrogen contents occupy a narrow range from 10 – 21 $\mu\text{g/g}$, whilst B contents
270 vary widely (85 – 329 $\mu\text{g/g}$). Lithium contents vary from 39 – 62 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Despite the wide range in
271 B contents, there is no clear trend in [N] versus [B]. Lithium contents show an overall negative
272 correlation with [B], and positive correlation with [N] (Figure 7).

273 Metagabbro sample LC-2a contains two populations of phengite with different major element
274 chemistry (Figure 3). Six grains had Si contents from 6.67 – 6.77 p.f.u. and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K}) = 0.10$ – 0.12 .
275 Two grains had higher Si contents (6.84 – 7.03) and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K}) = 0.04$ – 0.12 . The low Si population

276 has [N] from 66–123 $\mu\text{g/g}$, [B] from 25–36 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and [Li] from 55–64 $\mu\text{g/g}$. The high Si population
277 has lower [N] (20–24 $\mu\text{g/g}$), higher [B] (48–49 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and lower [Li] (41–47 $\mu\text{g/g}$).

278 Eclogite sample LC-1b contains paragonite with a narrow range of Si contents (6.06–6.10 p.f.u.)
279 and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K}) = 0.94\text{--}0.97$ (Figure 3). There is a negative correlation between Si p.f.u. and
280 $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$. Nitrogen contents vary from 15–47 $\mu\text{g/g}$, [B] from 13–24 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and [Li] from 5–11 $\mu\text{g/g}$.
281 There are no correlations between major and trace element concentrations.

282 4.1.2. *Raspas*

283 Eclogite sample SEC44-1 contains phengite with Si content ranging from 6.49–6.79 p.f.u., and
284 $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ from 0.11–0.14 (Figure 3). Phengite grains are not zoned in major element chemistry.
285 Nitrogen contents range from 147–244 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and are not correlated with variations in major element
286 chemistry. Boron contents range from 38–81 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and Li contents from 19–48 $\mu\text{g/g}$. There is a
287 positive correlation between [N] and [B] with average $[\text{N}]/[\text{B}] \sim 3.2$ (Figure 4).

288 Eclogite sample SEC47-1 contains phengite with a narrow range of Si contents from 6.51–6.60
289 p.f.u., and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ from 0.12–0.15 (Figure 3). Phengite grains are not zoned in major element
290 chemistry. Nitrogen contents range from 37–83 $\mu\text{g/g}$, so are considerably lower than in sample
291 SEC44-1. Boron contents vary from 50–77 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and Li contents from 38–49 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Phengite grains
292 show no significant intra-grain variation in [Li], [B] or [N]. There are no correlations between major
293 and trace element concentrations.

294 Blueschist sample SEC16-1 contains phengite as well as paragonite. Phengite has Si contents
295 from 6.64–6.80 p.f.u. and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ from 0.06–0.14 (Figure 3). There is a negative correlation
296 between Si content and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$. Phengite grains are not zoned in major element chemistry. N
297 contents range from 117–243 $\mu\text{g/g}$, B contents from 30–92 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and Li contents from 31–43 $\mu\text{g/g}$.
298 There is a positive correlation between Si p.f.u. and [N], and Si p.f.u. and [B], and a negative
299 correlation between Si p.f.u. and [Li]. Paragonite has Si = 5.98–6.00 p.f.u. and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K}) =$
300 $0.92\text{--}0.96$. Paragonite N contents range from 31–78 $\mu\text{g/g}$, [B] from 112–139 $\mu\text{g/g}$, and [Li] from 24–
301 28 $\mu\text{g/g}$. One exceptional grain has higher Si p.f.u. and lower $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ than other paragonites,
302 with Si = 6.11 p.f.u. and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K}) = 0.76$, but unexceptional trace element contents. There are

303 no correlations between major and trace element concentrations in paragonite.

304 4.1.3. *Jenner*

305 Sample JEN12-03 contains phengite with a large range of Si contents from 6.61–7.00 p.f.u. Most
306 grains have Na/(Na+K) from 0.01–0.03 and show no correlation between Na/(Na+K) and Si p.f.u.
307 (Figure 3). Three low Si grains have much higher Na/(Na+K) from 0.09–0.11 and show a negative
308 correlation between Na/(Na+K) and Si p.f.u.. Nitrogen contents range from 108–270 µg/g, [B]
309 from 42–96 µg/g and [Li] from 13–33 µg/g. There are no correlations between trace and major
310 element concentrations.

311 Sample JEN12-07 contains phengite with a large range of Si contents from 6.66–7.06 p.f.u.
312 and Na/(Na+K) = 0.02–0.09 (Figure 3). There is a negative correlation between Si p.f.u. and
313 Na/(Na+K). Nitrogen contents vary from 155–320 µg/g and are uncorrelated with Si p.f.u. Boron
314 contents vary from 33–61 µg/g and [Li] from 6–38 µg/g. There is a positive correlation between [B]
315 and [N] with average [N]/[B] ~4.5 (Figure 4).

316 Sample JEN12-09 contains phengite with a large range of Si contents from 6.50–6.88 p.f.u.,
317 Na/(Na+K) from 0.03–0.11, and a negative correlation between Si p.f.u. and Na/(Na+K) (Figure
318 3). Nitrogen contents vary from 22–127 µg/g, [B] from 29–64 µg/g, and [Li] from 16–42 µg/g. There
319 are no correlations between trace and major element concentrations.

320 [Figure 3 about here.]

321 [Figure 4 about here.]

322 4.2. *N, B, Li concentrations in other minerals*

323 Clinopyroxene, amphibole, epidote, titanite and garnet contain <5 µg/g N and B in all samples
324 (see supplementary data). Garnet, epidote and titanite also contain <5 µg/g Li. Clinopyroxene and
325 amphibole are significant hosts of Li varying from 46–142 µg/g in clinopyroxene, and 6–71 µg/g in
326 amphibole. The N content of chlorite is variable between different samples. Chlorite which occurs
327 in cracks and on the rims of garnet contains no detectable N, K or Na (JEN12-07, JEN12-09,
328 SEC16-1, LC-2a). Chlorite which occurs in the matrix of sample JEN12-03 contains 10–83 µg/g N

329 and minor amounts of K (up to 0.32 wt%) and Na (up to 0.13 wt%). Coexisting phengite contains
330 108–270 $\mu\text{g/g}$ N. Chlorite in all samples contains <5 $\mu\text{g/g}$ B, and 29–140 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Li but neither varies
331 systematically with textural setting like N.

332 *4.3. Bulk nitrogen contents*

333 Bulk N contents of each sample were calculated to assess the variability of N contents in different
334 protoliths (Table 1). For each sample, we combine the mean N concentration in each N-bearing
335 phase with the modal abundance of that phase, and use a weighted average to calculate the bulk N
336 concentration. The standard errors on mean mineral N concentrations are larger than the analytical
337 uncertainty for all samples except LC-3, which indicates that variation in N concentrations is due to
338 heterogeneity between grains, rather than analytical uncertainty. Mineral modes were estimated by
339 point counting 500 points on representative back scattered electron or optical photomicrographs of
340 each sample, using the software JMicroVision. Absolute uncertainties on mineral modes are calcu-
341 lated as \sqrt{x}/x , where x is the number of points. Bulk N contents range from 1.2–71 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Standard
342 errors on mineral modes and N concentrations were propagated to calculate the uncertainty in bulk
343 N contents.

344 [Table 1 about here.]

345 **5. Discussion**

346 *5.1. Residency of nitrogen and implications for global N recycling*

347 Nitrogen typically occurs as NH_4^+ in crustal rocks, where it substitutes for K^+ in K-bearing
348 minerals such as micas, and to a lesser extent for Na^+ and Ca^{2+} in minerals such as plagioclase
349 (Honma and Itihara, 1981). White mica is the dominant K-bearing phase in most high pressure
350 metabasaltic and metapelitic rocks up to ~ 9.5 GPa, 750–1000°C (Poli and Schmidt, 2002; Domanik
351 and Holloway, 1996). Previous studies have used correlations between bulk K_2O and N contents
352 to identify white micas as the main host for N (e.g. Bebout et al., 2013; Busigny et al., 2003a) in
353 these rocks. Halama et al. (2010) reported bulk N concentrations for the three Raspas samples in

354 this study. These values are consistent with our estimated bulk concentrations based on mineral
355 modes (Table 1), which confirms that most N is hosted within the analysed minerals and not along
356 grain boundaries or in fluid inclusions. Most samples contain a single white mica phase (phengite
357 or paragonite), which is the dominant N-bearing phase in the sample. Sample SEC16-1 contains
358 coexisting phengite (117–243 $\mu\text{g/g N}$) and paragonite (31–118 $\mu\text{g/g N}$), where N is preferentially
359 partitioned into phengite. This is consistent with the large ionic radius of NH_4^+ (1.67 Å), which is
360 closer to that of K^+ (1.64 Å) than Na^+ (1.39 Å) (Shannon, 1976; Sidey, 2016), and with previous
361 data on the nitrogen partitioning between Na- and K-bearing minerals (Honma and Itihara, 1981).
362 Nitrogen content of white micas is uncorrelated with $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ in most samples, which suggests
363 that small variations in white mica $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ ratio do not exert a strong control on N partitioning
364 behaviour.

365 [Table 2 about here.]

366 Our data suggest that white mica hosts >90% of the total N in all but two samples (LC-
367 1b and JEN12-03). Omphacite, glaucophane/barroisite and epidote contain <5 $\mu\text{g/g N}$ in all
368 samples. Omphacite and/or glaucophane are the next most significant N hosts after mica due to
369 their large modal abundance in most samples. Calculated inter-mineral partition coefficients for B
370 and Li (Table 2) are similar to previously published values (Marschall et al., 2006), which indicates
371 that our values represent equilibrium partitioning and that our samples therefore can be used to
372 investigate N partitioning. Partitioning values for N are variable between samples, due to the high
373 N variability in phengite and the low N concentration in other minerals, but broadly indicate that
374 N partitions strongly into phengite compared to other phases. Bulk K content controls white mica
375 mode in metabasic rocks, and since N strongly partitions into white mica over other phases, the
376 K content will exert a strong control on the N budget of subducted oceanic crust. Figure 5 shows
377 that reconstructed bulk K and N contents for mafic samples fall on a positive trend, with average
378 $\text{N} (\mu\text{g/g})/\text{K}_2\text{O} (\text{wt}\%) = 19.3 \pm 2.0$. The metachert sample LC-3 plots as an outlier. $\text{N}/\text{K}_2\text{O}$ for
379 subducted mafic rocks is an order of magnitude lower than for metasedimentary rocks ($\text{N}/\text{K}_2\text{O} \sim 200$,
380 Busigny et al. (2003a)). Our samples are representative of the basaltic upper oceanic crust, which

381 has undergone hydrothermal alteration on the seafloor and subsequently been subducted. Using
382 N/K₂O we can estimate the flux of N subducted in upper oceanic crust from the K₂O content and
383 the mass of crust subducted each year (2×10^{16} g/yr, Peacock (1990)). If we assume all basaltic
384 crust has a MORB-like K₂O content (0.16 wt% K₂O, Gale et al. (2013)), we calculate a flux of
385 $6.2 \pm 0.6 \times 10^{10}$ g/yr using our average N/K₂O value of 19.3 ± 2.0 . For average altered oceanic
386 crust (AOC, 0.62 wt% K₂O, Kelley et al. (2018)) we calculate $2.4 \pm 0.2 \times 10^{11}$ g/yr. Busigny et al.
387 (2011) calculated a N flux of 1.3×10^{11} g/yr for upper oceanic crust, based on the average N content
388 of metabasalts, which is similar to our value assuming AOC but larger than our value assuming
389 MORB-like crust. All our estimates are somewhat smaller than the flux attributed to subducted
390 sediments (7.4×10^{11} g/yr, Busigny et al. (2003a)).

391 [Figure 5 about here.]

392 The only non-mica mineral with significant N is chlorite, for which N contents vary with textural
393 setting. Chlorite forming rims around garnet contains very low [N] (typically <5 µg/g). This is
394 consistent with it forming from retrograde breakdown of garnet, which contains <1 µg/g N. Chlorite
395 which occurs in the matrix alongside N-rich phengite contains 10-83 µg/g N (sample JEN12-03).
396 Chlorite from JEN12-03 also contains minor amounts of K + Na (Figure 6). Incorporation of
397 minor K and Na in chlorite crystals by interlayering of chlorite and K-bearing phyllosilicates at the
398 nanometre scale has been investigated in diagenesis and sub-greenschist facies metamorphism of
399 mudstones and volcanoclastic sediments (Lee et al., 1984; Ahn et al., 1988). It is possible that this
400 mechanism is partially responsible for incorporation of K, Na and N in our chlorites, but N/K₂O
401 is much higher in chlorite than in co-existing phengite (chl: 370, phe: 18), which suggests excess
402 N in the chlorite structure itself. Chlorite is structurally similar to the K and Na-bearing micas,
403 with both minerals containing large interlayer cation sites. In micas these are filled by K⁺ and Na⁺
404 cations, whereas in chlorite they are vacant. A possible substitution reaction for N incorporation
405 into chlorite is NH_3 (fluid) + $\text{OH}^- \longrightarrow \text{NH}_4^+ + \text{O}^{2-}$, where NH_4^+ is incorporated in the vacant
406 interlayer sites.

407 [Figure 6 about here.]

408 Chlorite is common in greenschist facies rocks across a wide range of bulk compositions and
 409 therefore could potentially play an important role in subduction zone N cycling. However, it
 410 has received little previous attention as a possible host for N. Low-grade pelitic schists from the
 411 Erzgebirge massif displayed weak correlations between either chlorite or white mica mode and bulk N
 412 content, but a strong correlation between chlorite + white mica mode and bulk N content (Mingram
 413 and Bräuer, 2001), which supports chlorite being an important host for N. Chlorite also occurs in
 414 chlorite harzburgites, formed during serpentinite dehydration. Serpentinites typically have bulk N
 415 concentrations $<5 \mu\text{g/g}$ (Halama et al., 2014; Philippot et al., 2007), but one chlorite harzburgite
 416 studied by Halama et al. (2014) has elevated N contents ($\sim 20 \mu\text{g/g}$), which may be consistent with
 417 a role for chlorite as a host of N. More research is required to investigate the importance of chlorite
 418 as a host for N in different lithologies and the mechanism of N incorporation in chlorite.

419 *5.2. Fluid rock interaction: a simple system*

420 Sample LC-3 (Lago di Cignana garnet-phengite quartzite) was part of a previous study by
 421 Halama et al. (2020), who showed a strong positive correlation of B concentration and B isotopic
 422 composition, which was interpreted as resulting from addition of isotopically heavy B during peak
 423 metamorphic fluid-rock interaction with a serpentinite-derived fluid. We extend the fluid-rock
 424 interaction modelling approach of Halama et al. (2020) to include [Li] and [N] data and estimate
 425 the phengite-fluid partition coefficient for N. We modified the equation of Nabelek (1987) for open
 426 system fluid-rock interaction to replace the concentration of an element in the rock, with the
 427 concentration in phengite, multiplied by the modal abundance of phengite:

$$C_{phe}^f = DC_w - (DC_w - C_{phe}^i) e^{-n/Dx_{phe}}$$

428 C_{phe}^f is the final concentration of the trace element in the phengite, C_{phe}^i is the initial concentra-
 429 tion in the phengite, C_w is the concentration in the fluid, n is the fluid-rock ratio (by weight), x_{phe} is
 430 the modal abundance of phengite (33%), and D is the phengite-fluid partition coefficient. For B we
 431 use a partition coefficient of 0.7 (Marschall et al., 2006). We used an initial B concentration in the
 432 phengite of $50 \mu\text{g/g}$ and concentration in the fluid of $1000 \mu\text{g/g}$, based on the preferred interpreta-

433 tion of addition of B from a serpentinite-derived, B-rich fluid (Halama et al., 2020). Marschall et al.
 434 (2006) reported a subsolidus partition coefficient for Li of 0.05, although higher values of 1 have
 435 been reported for suprasolidus experiments (Adam et al., 2014). We evaluate two different scenarios
 436 here to model the Li and B data and will subsequently use these constraints to model the combined
 437 [N]-[B] and [N]-[Li] data. For $D_{\text{Li}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.05$, the [B]-[Li] data can be fitted using a Li concentration
 438 in the fluid of 800–1000 $\mu\text{g/g}$, and initial Li concentration in the phengite of 60–120 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Figure 7).
 439 For larger values of $D_{\text{Li}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.5 - 1$, the [B]-[Li] data can be fitted with $[\text{Li}]_{\text{w}} = 0 - 20 \text{ g/g}$ and
 440 $[\text{Li}]_{\text{phe}}^{\text{i}} \approx 65 \text{ g/g}$. Serpentinites typically contain $<10 \mu\text{g/g}$ Li (Deschamps et al., 2012; Kodolányi
 441 et al., 2012; Lafay et al., 2013; Vils et al., 2008), and fluid inclusions representing serpentinite de-
 442 hydration fluids also have $<10 \mu\text{g/g}$ Li in both experiments and natural samples (Spandler et al.,
 443 2014; Scambelluri et al., 2004). Serpentinite-derived fluids are therefore expected to have low Li
 444 contents and the second scenario, with a value of $D_{\text{Li}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.5 - 1$ is preferred. To model the
 445 [N]-[Li] data we therefore use $D_{\text{Li}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.5$, $[\text{Li}]_{\text{w}} = 0 \text{ g/g}$ and $[\text{Li}]_{\text{phe}}^{\text{i}} = 65 \text{ g/g}$, which allows the
 446 maximum range of $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}}$ values that are consistent with the data.

447 To model the N data we consider a variety of theoretical scenarios and evaluate which are con-
 448 sistent with our data and independent constraints on fluid compositions. The [N]-[Li] data display a
 449 positive slope, which can be fitted with $[\text{N}]_{\text{w}} = 0 \text{ g/g}$, $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.5 - 1.5$ and $[\text{N}]_{\text{phe}}^{\text{i}} = 17 - 20 \text{ g/g}$
 450 (Figure 7). These parameters also fit the [N]-[B] data. $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}} > 1.5$ is not consistent with the
 451 slope of the [N]-[Li] array for any range of other parameters. There is a trade-off between D and
 452 the concentration in the fluid, such that smaller values of $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}}$ are consistent with the data if
 453 the fluid contains nitrogen (e.g. $D_{\text{N}}^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.2$, $[\text{N}]_{\text{w}} = 50 \text{ g/g}$). There are no data available on the
 454 N contents of fluids derived from serpentinite breakdown, but bulk serpentinites contain $<15 \mu\text{g/g}$
 455 N, and typically $<5 \mu\text{g/g}$ N (Halama et al., 2014; Philippot et al., 2007). The major pulse of fluid
 456 release in serpentinites occurs during antigorite breakdown at 600–650 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, which coincides with the
 457 P-T conditions inferred for fluid-rock interaction in this sample (Halama et al., 2020). The amount
 458 of fluid release is 6–13 wt%, depending on the serpentinite composition (Padrón-Navarta et al.,
 459 2013; Ulmer and Trommsdorff, 1995). Fluid release occurs over a narrow temperature interval so
 460 all fluid is likely to be pooled. Chlorite harzburgites produced from antigorite breakdown show a

461 similar range of N contents to serpentinites (Halama et al., 2014), which suggests that the amount
 462 of N released during antigorite breakdown is relatively small. Based on these constraints we suggest
 463 that N contents in serpentinite-derived fluids are likely <100 $\mu\text{g/g}$, and may be much lower. Using
 464 this N concentration in the fluid, a lower bound of $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.1$ is the minimum value of $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}}$
 465 which is consistent with the [N]-[Li] and [N]-[B] data. For a lower value of 10 $\mu\text{g/g}$ N in the fluid,
 466 the data are fit by $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.3$.

467 With $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.1 - 1.5$ all the data can be explained by fluid-rock ratios of up to 0.1, which
 468 is similar to the values of 0.1–0.13 obtained from B isotope modelling (Halama et al., 2020). Note
 469 these values have been rescaled from the Halama paper because the effect of the modal abundance of
 470 phengite on modifying the bulk rock equations was not accounted for. A value of $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.1 - 1.5$
 471 is therefore considered the most consistent with our data and fluid composition constraints.

472 [Figure 7 about here.]

473 The reconstructed bulk N content for this garnet-phengite quartzite (sample LC-3) is 5 $\mu\text{g/g}$
 474 (Table 1). Siliceous ooze and chert, which are considered the likely protoliths, contain $18-78$ $\mu\text{g/g}$
 475 bulk N in samples from the Western Pacific (Sadofsky and Bebout, 2004). If these values are
 476 taken as representative then this suggests that N was lost during subduction, consistent with the
 477 conclusions from our fluid-rock interaction modelling.

478 Reported subsolidus values for $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}}$ range from 0.01 to ~ 10 , depending on the experimen-
 479 tal conditions (Table 3). Pöter et al. (2004) reported $D_{\text{NH}_4^+}^{\text{muscovite-fluid}} \approx 0.13$ at 0.4 GPa and
 480 $D_{\text{NH}_4^+}^{\text{mu-fl}} \approx 0.20$ at 1.5 GPa in the temperature range $400-600$ $^\circ\text{C}$. More recent experiments have fo-
 481 cused on the partitioning behaviour at higher temperatures, during melting, but have produced sub-
 482 stantially differing results in different experimental bulk compositions. Förster et al. (2019) report
 483 $D_{\text{NH}_4^+}^{\text{phengite-fluid}} \approx 10$ at 2 GPa, 750 $^\circ\text{C}$ (subsolidus) and $0.5-1$ at 3 GPa, $800-850$ $^\circ\text{C}$ (suprasolidus)
 484 during reaction of a metapelitic melt with dunite. Jackson et al. (2021) report $D_{\text{NH}_4^+}^{\text{biotite-fluid}} = 0.01-$
 485 0.4 at $0.2-2.3$ GPa, $725-925$ $^\circ\text{C}$ during reaction of silicate minerals with hydrous fluids. NH_4^+ has
 486 also previously been assumed to behave similarly to Rb^+ (e.g. Mallik et al., 2018; Busigny et al.,
 487 2003a), which has a similar ionic radius (NH_4^+ : 1.67 \AA , Rb^+ : 1.72 \AA), and a $D_{\text{Rb}}^{\text{phe-fl}}$ value of $\sim 4-10$

488 (Adam et al., 2014; Melzer and Wunder, 2000).

489 Our value of $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.1 - 1.5$ overlaps with the suprasolidus values of Förster et al. (2019).
490 However, it is inconsistent with a single subsolidus value ($D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 10$) of Förster et al. (2019).
491 and with the values of 4–10, based on the assumption that NH_4^+ behaves like Rb^+ . Jackson et al.
492 (2021) provide small values for $D_N^{\text{biotite-fl}}$ (0.01–0.4), which are mostly inconsistent with our value
493 for $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}}$, when considering the consistent $D_N^{\text{bi-phe}} \approx 3$ reported by all studies. The subsolidus
494 values of Pöter et al. (2004) ($D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.12 - -0.2$) fall at the bottom end of the range of values
495 which are consistent with our data. The experimental data are either from similar temperatures but
496 lower pressures to the Cignana case study (Pöter et al., 2004), or similar pressures but higher tem-
497 peratures (Förster et al., 2019; Jackson et al., 2021). Extrapolation of the P-T effects reported by
498 the Jackson study does not match our value for $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}}$, and therefore differences in P-T conditions
499 are less likely to be the main factor for the discrepancy between our value and their work. Experi-
500 mental and natural values for $D_N^{\text{phe-bi}}$ are relatively consistent between multiple studies at different
501 P-T conditions, whereas experimental values for $D_N^{\text{phe-fl}}$ vary widely (Table 3), which suggests that
502 variation may be a result of fluid-related factors. The difficulty of preserving N contents of experi-
503 mental fluids during quenching may be a source of variation in the experimental results (e.g. Chen
504 et al., 2019). Nitrogen is present as NH_4^+ in both biotite and phengite, whereas N speciation in
505 fluid varies between N_2 , NH_3 and NH_4^+ , depending on P, T, pH and $f\text{O}_2$ (Mikhail and Sverjensky,
506 2014; Mikhail et al., 2017) and therefore differences in fluid pH and $f\text{O}_2$ between experiments, and
507 between experiments and our samples, are also possible reasons for the discrepancy.

508 [Table 3 about here.]

509 5.3. Fluid-rock interaction: growth of new phases

510 Sample SEC16-1 (Raspas blueschist) contains phengite as well as paragonite. As both minerals
511 are significant hosts for N and B, phengite compositions cannot be considered in isolation. Phengites
512 show a decrease in [N] and [B] with decreasing Si p.f.u., an increase in [Li], as well as a increase in
513 $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$ (i.e. its paragonite component) whereas paragonite shows unsystematic variation in
514 these elements (Figure 3).

515 We performed equilibrium phase diagram modelling in order to understand the mineralogical
516 evolution of this sample and link this to the trace element behaviour. Calculations were performed
517 using the Theriak-Domino software (de Capitani and Brown, 1987; de Capitani and Petrakakis,
518 2010) and the NCKFMASHTO + CO₂ system using an H₂O–CO₂ fluid in excess and the Hol-
519 land and Powell (2011) thermodynamic database. The solution models used were: amphibole,
520 clinopyroxene, white mica (Green et al., 2016); garnet, biotite, chlorite (White et al., 2014); epidote
521 (Holland and Powell, 2011).

522 We calculated P-X(CO₂) and T-X(CO₂) equilibrium phase diagrams with variable X(CO₂) from
523 0 to 0.025, using the bulk composition for this sample reported in John et al. (2010) and an average
524 MORB value of X_{Fe³⁺} = 0.16 (Cottrell and Kelley, 2011). The effect of varying X_{Fe³⁺} from 0.05–0.25
525 moved field boundaries by only <1 kbar for all phases except epidote and therefore X_{Fe³⁺} = 0.16 is
526 considered suitable for this sample.

527 The observed assemblage occupies a field ranging from 1.5–1.9 GPa, 520–570 °C and X(CO₂)
528 from 0.010–0.022 (Figure 8). This field is bounded by the disappearance of paragonite as X(CO₂)
529 decreases, and the disappearance of garnet and epidote as X(CO₂) increases. John et al. (2010)
530 previously calculated peak P-T conditions for the Raspas complex using conventional thermobarom-
531 etry on garnet-omphacite-phengite assemblages. Peak P-T conditions of eclogites were 1.6–2.0 GPa
532 and 550–650 °C. Garnet-omphacite-phengite domains in blueschists recorded slightly lower peak
533 pressures of 1.4–1.6 GPa and similar temperatures. According to our modelling, omphacite is only
534 stable under these conditions at lower values of X(CO₂) than are required to stabilise the observed
535 blueschist assemblage, which has 16% paragonite. As mentioned above, the sample contains car-
536 bonate, and addition of CO₂ to the system stabilises paragonite. As X(CO₂) increases across the
537 observed assemblage field, the paragonite mode increases from 0 to 25%, and glaucophane mode
538 decreases from 40 to 15% due to the (unbalanced) reaction glaucophane + CO₂ → parago-
539 nite + (Fe,Mg,Ca) carbonate. The high paragonite mode observed in the sample can therefore be
540 explained as a result of infiltration of a carbonate-bearing fluid.

541 As X(CO₂) increases across the peak assemblage field, phengite Na/(Na+K) increases and Si
542 content decreases. Phengite mode remains fairly constant, decreasing slightly from 16 to 14%. A

543 range of phengite Si contents are observed in different phengite grains. These are interpreted as
544 representing partial recrystallisation of phengite during interaction with a carbonate-bearing fluid,
545 with the new domains having lower Si p.f.u. and higher Na p.f.u.. Trace element redistribution from
546 other phases into phengite supports our interpretation. For example, the Li contents in phengite,
547 which correlate with decreasing Si p.f.u., can be interpreted to reflect incorporation of Li from
548 glaucophane breakdown, since glaucophane has high Li contents (132–169 $\mu\text{g/g}$). Although the
549 preservation of variable phengite Si contents implies that full equilibrium was not reached during
550 fluid-rock interaction (i.e. the reactant phases were not totally consumed), the assemblage, major
551 and trace element data support the conclusion that interaction with a CO_2 -bearing fluid occurred,
552 likely during early retrograde metamorphism.

553 [Figure 8 about here.]

554 Decrease in phengite N content in SEC16-1 also correlates with decreasing Si content and in-
555 creasing $\text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{K})$. This can be explained by the phengite recrystallisation discussed above.
556 During paragonite growth, partial re-equilibration of phengite with the growing paragonite results
557 in transfer of N from phengite to paragonite. Taking the phengite with the highest Si content to
558 represent the initial phengite composition prior to fluid-rock interaction, we use the N content of
559 this phengite (232 $\mu\text{g/g}$) to calculate the initial bulk N concentration of the sample. To calculate
560 the final bulk N concentration we use the average N concentrations of all phengite and paragonite
561 grains measured (190 and 53 $\mu\text{g/g}$ respectively). The observed phengite and paragonite modes are
562 around 16%. Using the method described in Section 4.3 we calculate the bulk N contents before and
563 after fluid-rock interaction. The final bulk N content is 39 $\mu\text{g/g}$. For the conservative assumption
564 that the phengite mode does not change during fluid-rock interaction, the initial bulk N is 37 $\mu\text{g/g}$.
565 Accounting for the modelled decrease in phengite mode from 16 to 14%, the initial bulk is 42 $\mu\text{g/g}$.
566 The decrease in N concentration seen in phengite in this sample can therefore be explained by
567 redistribution of N between growing and dissolving phases during fluid-rock interaction, without
568 any significant external input or loss of N from the rock. The uncertainty on the bulk [N] values
569 was estimated to be ~15–20% by combining uncertainties on the mineral N concentrations and

570 mineral modes. This conclusion is similar to Halama et al. (2017), who showed that the retention
571 of N during fluid-rock interaction is strongly controlled by the stability or breakdown of white mica.
572 A similar reaction (albite + CO₂ → paragonite + aragonite) observed in calcschists from the
573 Western Alps was associated with 60% loss of N from the bulk rock, with volumetric fluid-rock
574 ratios of 3–4 (Epstein et al., 2021). The difference in N behaviour compared to our study may be
575 explained by a lower fluid-rock ratio, or a different fluid composition. If we assume that the X(CO₂)
576 values which stabilise the observed assemblage (Figure 8) are representative of the fluid, and that all
577 the CO₂ in the fluid was converted to carbonate minerals, we can estimate the minimum amount of
578 fluid required to generate the modal abundance of carbonate observed. Using X(CO₂)=0.01–0.022
579 and a carbonate mode of 3–5 vol% gives a fluid-rock ratio of 0.2–0.9, which is indeed lower than
580 for the Epstein study.

581 Phengite and paragonite are also the main B-bearing phases, so the same model can be applied
582 to B as with N. The decrease in B contents with decreasing Si contents can be explained by
583 redistribution of B into paragonite. The calculated final bulk B concentration is 28 µg/g, compared
584 to an initial concentration of 15–17 µg/g depending on the estimate of the phengite mode. This
585 suggests that in contrast with N, B has been added to the rock during fluid-rock interaction. This
586 may explain why there is more scatter in the correlation of [B] with Si p.f.u., compared to [N], as
587 individual grains have equilibrated to differing degrees with a B-rich fluid (Konrad-Schmolke and
588 Halama, 2014; Halama et al., 2020).

589 *5.4. Fluid-rock interaction in other samples*

590 Calculated bulk N concentrations in Cignana mafic rocks (samples LC-2a, LC-1b) are very low.
591 Sample LC-1b (1.2 µg/g N) falls within the range of N contents observed in fresh MORB, which is
592 generally <2 µg/g (Li et al., 2007; Busigny et al., 2005; Erzinger et al., 1996). Sample LC-2a has
593 slightly higher N contents (3.6 µg/g), which may reflect a more hydrothermally altered protolith
594 (Busigny et al., 2005; Li et al., 2007), or addition of minor N during subduction.

595 Sample LC-2a preserves variability in phengite major and trace element chemistry. The main
596 population has constant Si p.f.u. but variable N contents (39–123 µg/g). There are two grains with

597 higher, variable Si content, lower N (20–24 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and Li contents, and higher B content. The Si
598 contents of these grains overlap with those from sample LC-3, which were interpreted to record
599 peak metamorphism. Halama et al. (2020) previously interpreted B isotope data from LC-2a to
600 suggest that B was lost during retrograde fluid-rock interaction. The observed lower B contents and
601 lower Si contents in our analyses are consistent with this interpretation, where the low Si grains
602 formed during retrograde recrystallization and the high Si grains preserve peak conditions. The
603 elevated N and Li contents in low Si grains suggest that small amounts of N and Li were added
604 during retrograde fluid-rock interaction.

605 Previous studies on eclogites and blueschists from Jenner have suggested a complex metamorphic
606 history involving interaction with both sediment-derived (Sorensen et al., 1997; Penniston-Dorland
607 et al., 2010) and serpentinite-derived fluids (Errico et al., 2013). Jenner samples show high bulk N
608 contents (13–71 $\mu\text{g/g}$) compared to the range of both fresh MORB ($< 2 \mu\text{g/g}$) and altered oceanic
609 crust (1–30 $\mu\text{g/g}$, Li et al. (2007); Busigny et al. (2005)). The N concentrations in individual
610 phengite grains are similar to those from Raspas, but the Jenner samples contain higher phengite
611 modes, resulting in higher bulk N contents. High phengite mode is consistent with the bulk en-
612 richment in K and other large ion lithophile elements documented by Sorensen et al. (1997) and
613 attributed to interaction with a sediment-derived fluid. High N contents are also consistent with
614 a sediment-derived fluid, since subducted sediments can have N contents up to 2000 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (e.g.
615 Sadofsky and Bebout, 2004; Li and Bebout, 2005). The positive correlation of N and B contents in
616 phengite in samples JEN12-03 and JEN12-07 is also consistent with a sediment derived fluid, since
617 sediments can also contain high B contents (e.g. Romer et al., 2014; Bebout et al., 2013; De Hoog
618 and Savov, 2018). Negative correlation of [N] and [Li] in JEN12-07 and JEN12-09 suggests that
619 these sediment-derived fluids may be Li-poor.

620 These samples demonstrate that addition of N during metamorphism appears to be a common
621 process in subduction-related mafic rocks, in agreement with recent work which found that N
622 addition can occur as early as blueschist facies (Li et al., 2021). These fluids are most likely sourced
623 from dehydrating metasediments, as these are rich in N. Addition of N can be associated with either
624 addition or loss of Li and B, which suggests that these fluids can be heterogeneous in their Li and

625 B contents, possibly reflecting heterogeneity in the sediments themselves. Addition of N is seen in
626 phengite with high Si contents, which implies that it occurred during deep subduction and is not
627 a late-stage retrograde overprint. The presence of N and other fluid-mobile elements in sediment-
628 derived fluids at depths of up to ~90 km (in the case of Cignana, see our modelling in Section 5.2)
629 implies that these elements are at least partially retained to that depth, and can be mobilised and
630 redistributed there, rather than being completely lost during shallow dehydration reactions. This
631 emphasises the importance of understanding volatile element transfer between lithologies during
632 subduction, not just the effects of prograde devolatilisation, and shows that mafic rocks may act as
633 sinks for N and other volatiles during subduction-related metasomatism, if accompanied by growth
634 of mica.

635 6. Conclusions

636 This study demonstrates the viability of *in situ* analyses of N in silicate minerals using SIMS.
637 The data collected from a range of formerly subducted rocks show that N is dominantly hosted
638 in white micas, compared to phases such as omphacite or Na-amphibole. Chlorite may have an
639 additional role as a N host but more data are required to explore its role in a wider variety of local-
640 ities and lithologies. Reconstructed bulk N contents based on mineral modes and N concentrations
641 agree with bulk N contents measured by combustion, which confirms that most N is hosted in the
642 major rock-forming minerals. Using the N/K₂O ratio in white micas, and the K-content of the
643 subducted slab, we estimate the subducted flux of N in oceanic crust to be $0.6 - 2.4 \times 10^{11}$ g/yr,
644 which is similar to or slightly smaller than previous estimates. A case study of fluid-rock interac-
645 tion in a mineralogically simple garnet-phengite quartzite shows moderate N loss during fluid-rock
646 interaction. Using open system fluid-rock interaction equations we show that N is a moderately
647 fluid-mobile element under the P-T-X conditions experienced by this sample ($D_N^{\text{phe-fl}} = 0.1 - 1.5$).
648 A second fluid-rock interaction case study shows the importance of white mica stability in control-
649 ling the N budget of rocks. White mica growth during fluid-rock interaction can sequester N and
650 prevent significant bulk N loss. Our work provides constraints on the inter-mineral partitioning
651 of N at subduction zone conditions and provides the first natural constraints on the fluid-mineral

652 partitioning of N at these conditions. We emphasise the complexity of element mobility within
653 subduction zones, with redistribution between different phases and lithologies being important, in
654 addition to simple loss of volatiles during dehydration.

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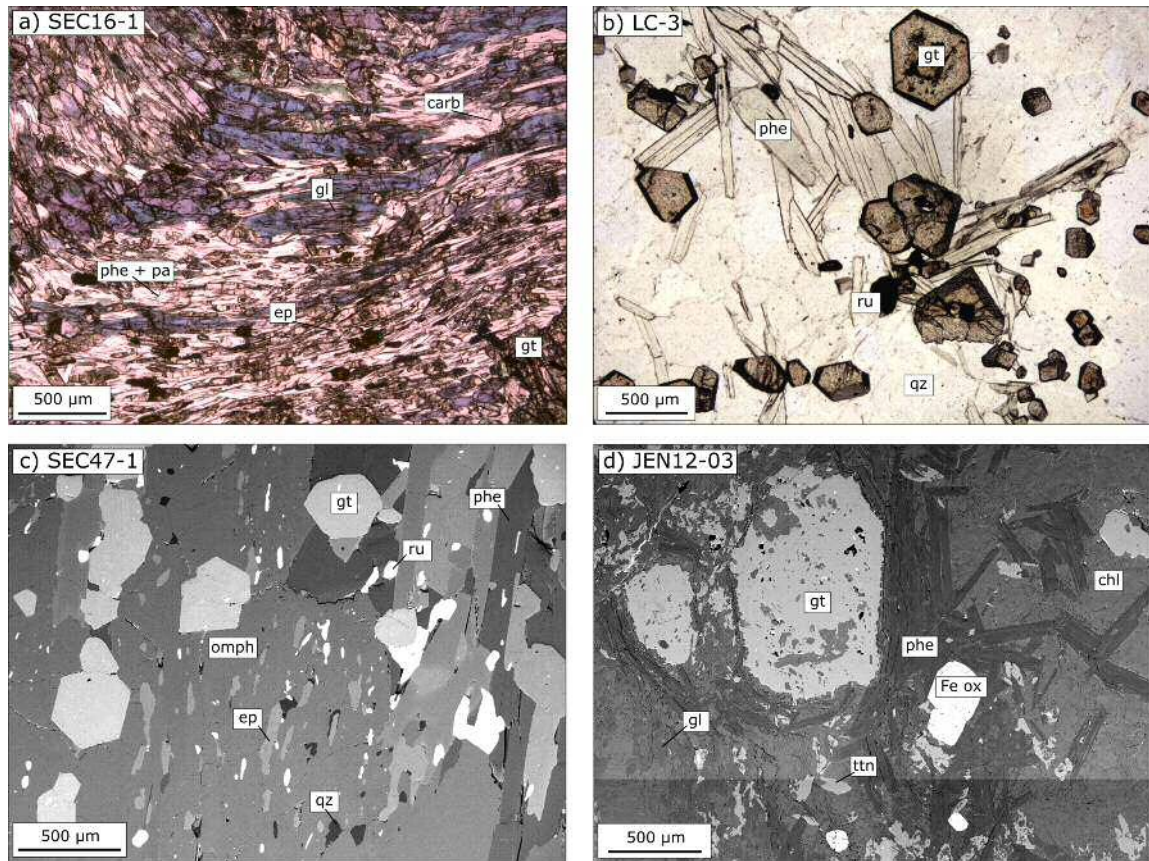


Figure 1: (a) Representative photomicrograph in plane polarised light of blueschist SEC16-1. (b) Representative photomicrograph in plane polarised light of garnet-phengite quartzite LC-3. (c) Representative back scattered electron image of eclogite SEC47-1. (d) Representative back scattered electron image of blueschist JEN12-03. Phe = phengite, pa= paragonite, gt = garnet, gl = glaucophane, ep = epidote, qz = quartz, ttn = titanite, chl = chlorite, omph = omphacite, Fe ox = iron oxide.

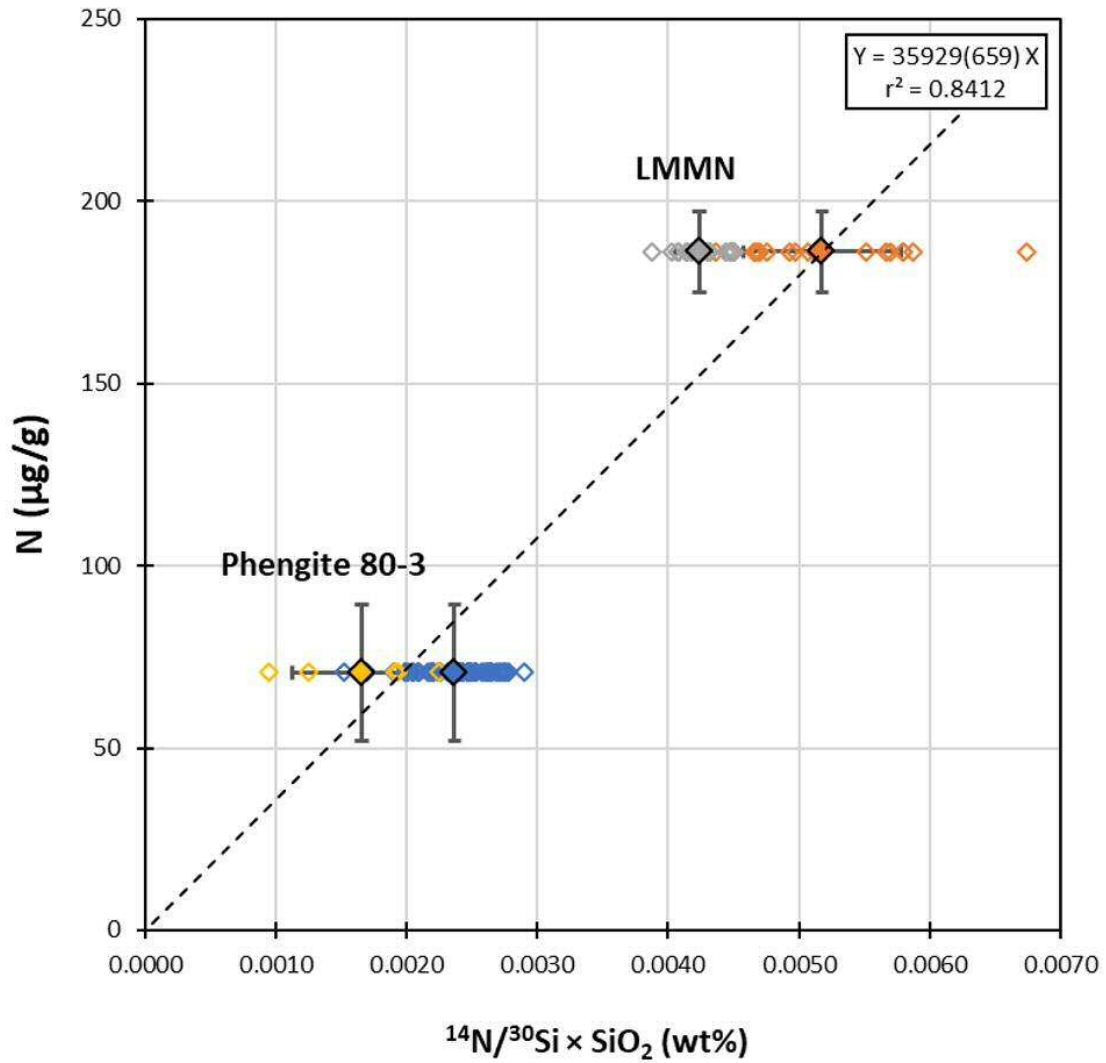


Figure 2: SIMS calibration of N concentrations based on two white mica standards (Phe80-3 and LMMN Busigny et al. (2003b, 2004)). All individual analytical spots ($n=70$) are indicated as well as averages with 1 σ uncertainties. The slope of the calibration slope is indicated, along with the 1 σ uncertainty in brackets.

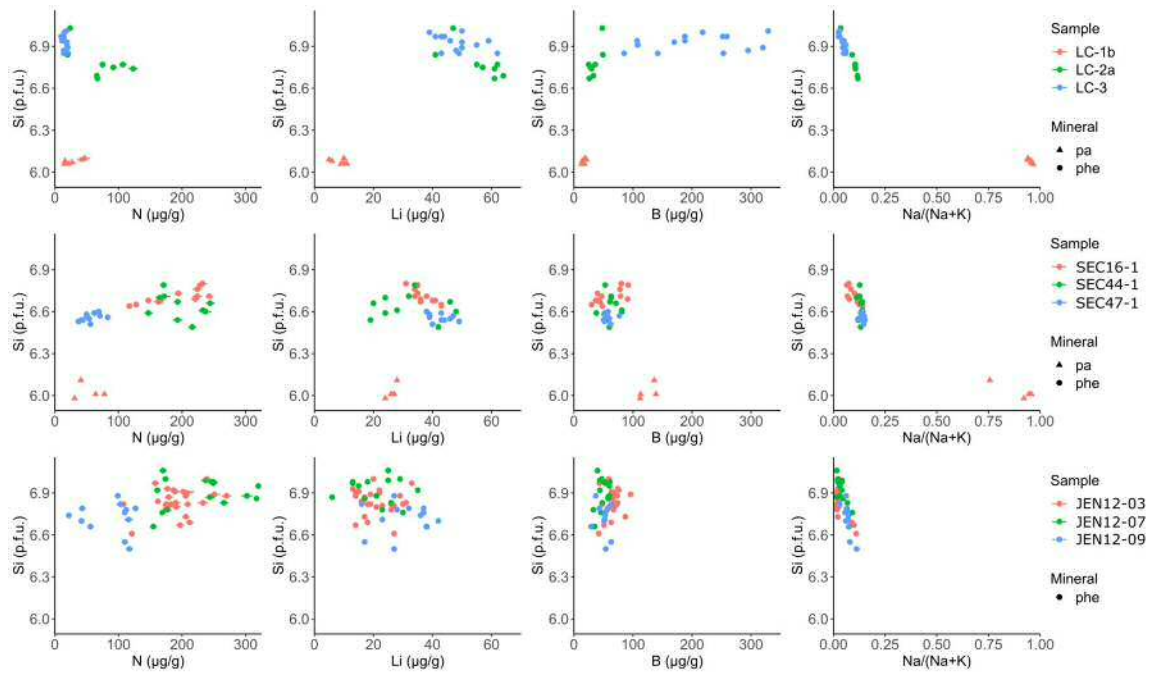


Figure 3: N, Li, B, Na/Na+K data vs Si p.f.u. for phengite and paragonite from each locality (top: Cignana, middle Rapas, bottom Jenner). 1s error bars are plotted. Where error bars are not shown, they are smaller than the size of the symbol.

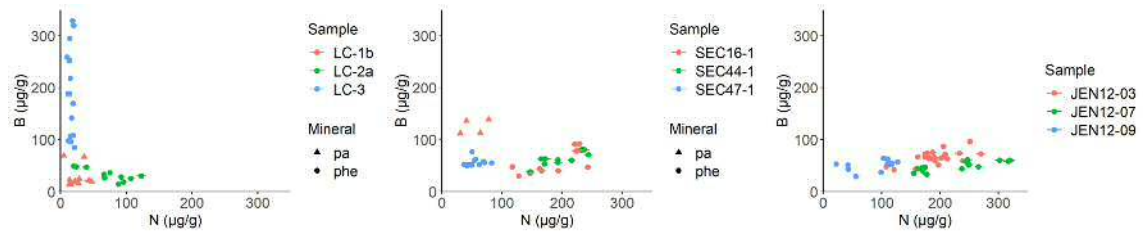


Figure 4: N vs B for phengite and paragonite from each locality (left: Cignana, middle Raspas, right Jenner). 1s error bars are plotted. Where error bars are not shown they are smaller than the size of the symbol.

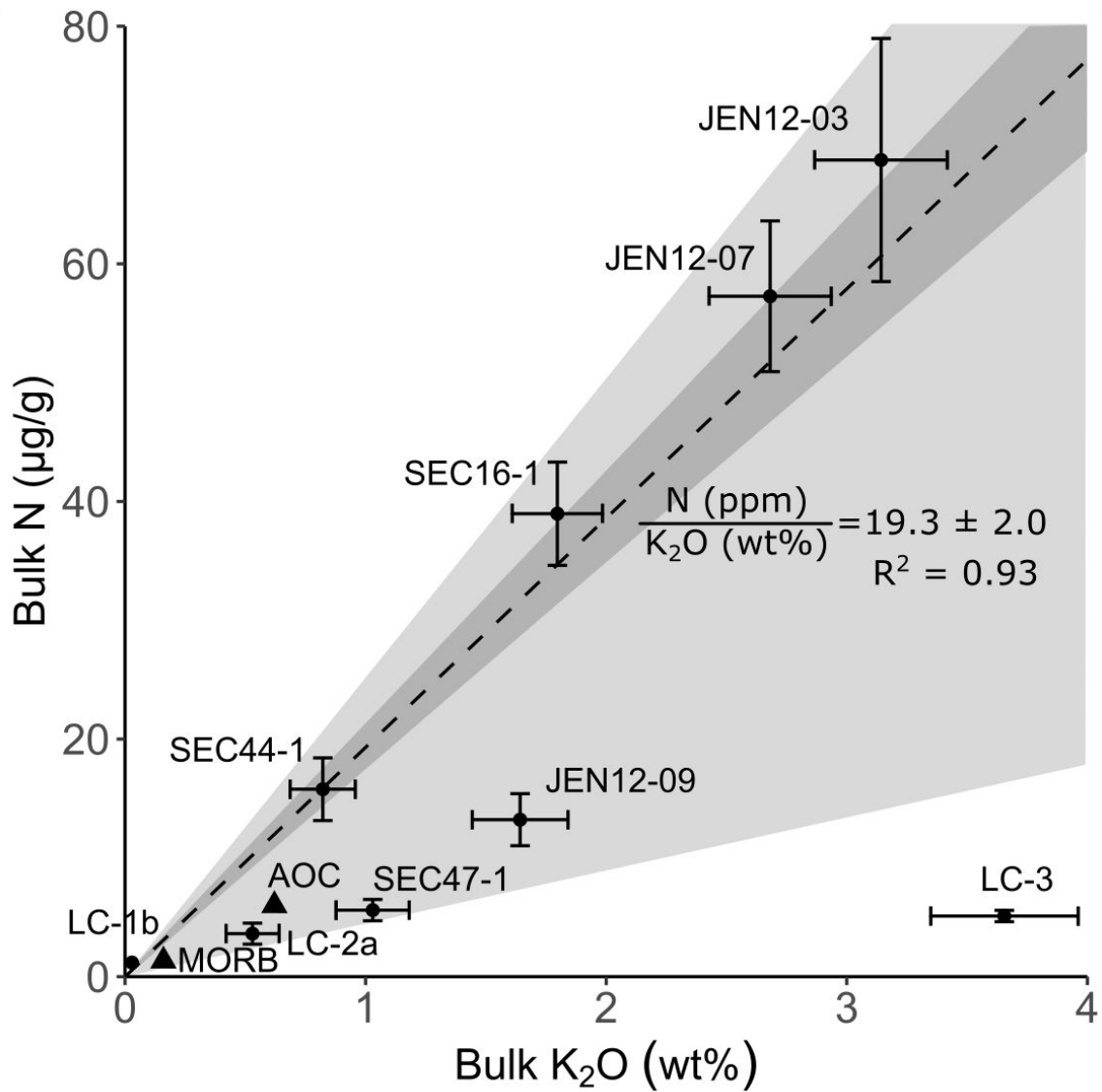


Figure 5: Calculated bulk K₂O and N contents for each sample. Average values for MORB and AOC (black triangles) are shown for comparison (Johnson and Goldblatt, 2015; Gale et al., 2013; Kelley et al., 2018). The average N/K₂O (excluding sample LC-3) is plotted as a dashed line with 1s uncertainty (dark grey). Upper and lower bounds are plotted in light grey.

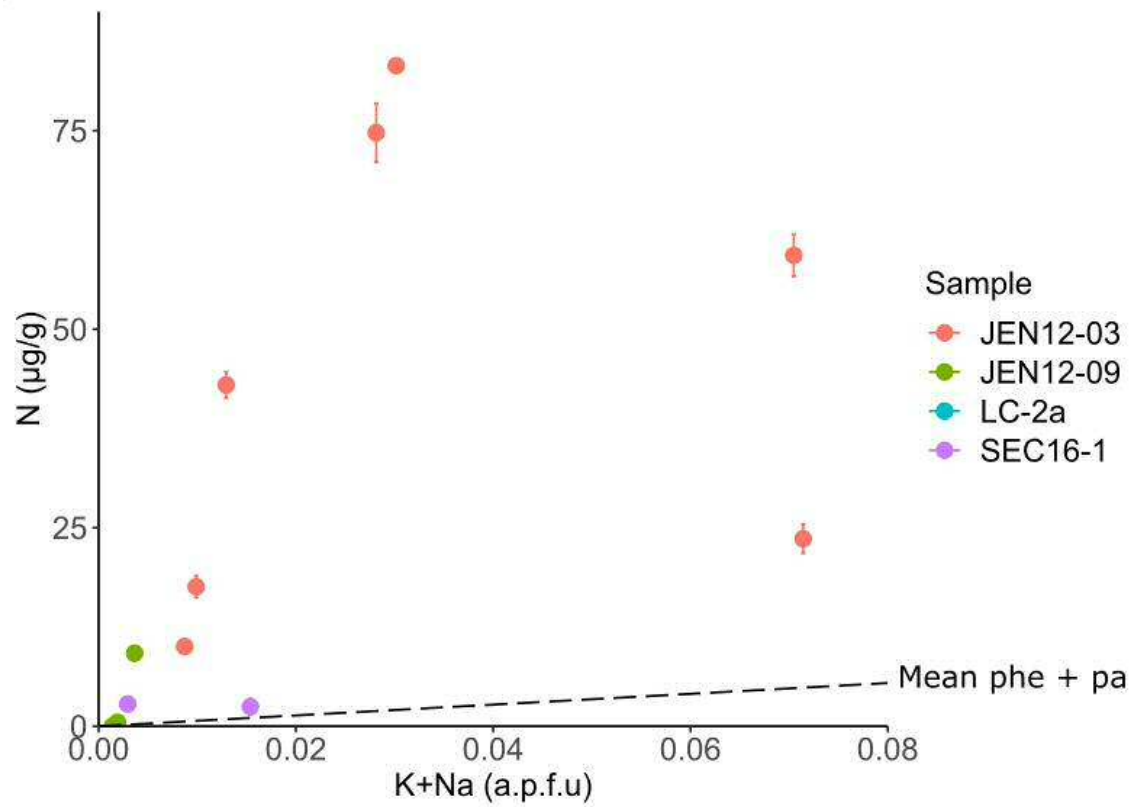


Figure 6: N versus K+Na plot for chlorite. Chlorites from sample JEN12-03 occur in the matrix alongside phengite, and have elevated K+Na and N contents. Chlorites from other samples occur as rims on garnets and contain little N, K or Na. A line showing the mean value for N/(K+Na) in phengite and paragonite is shown for comparison.

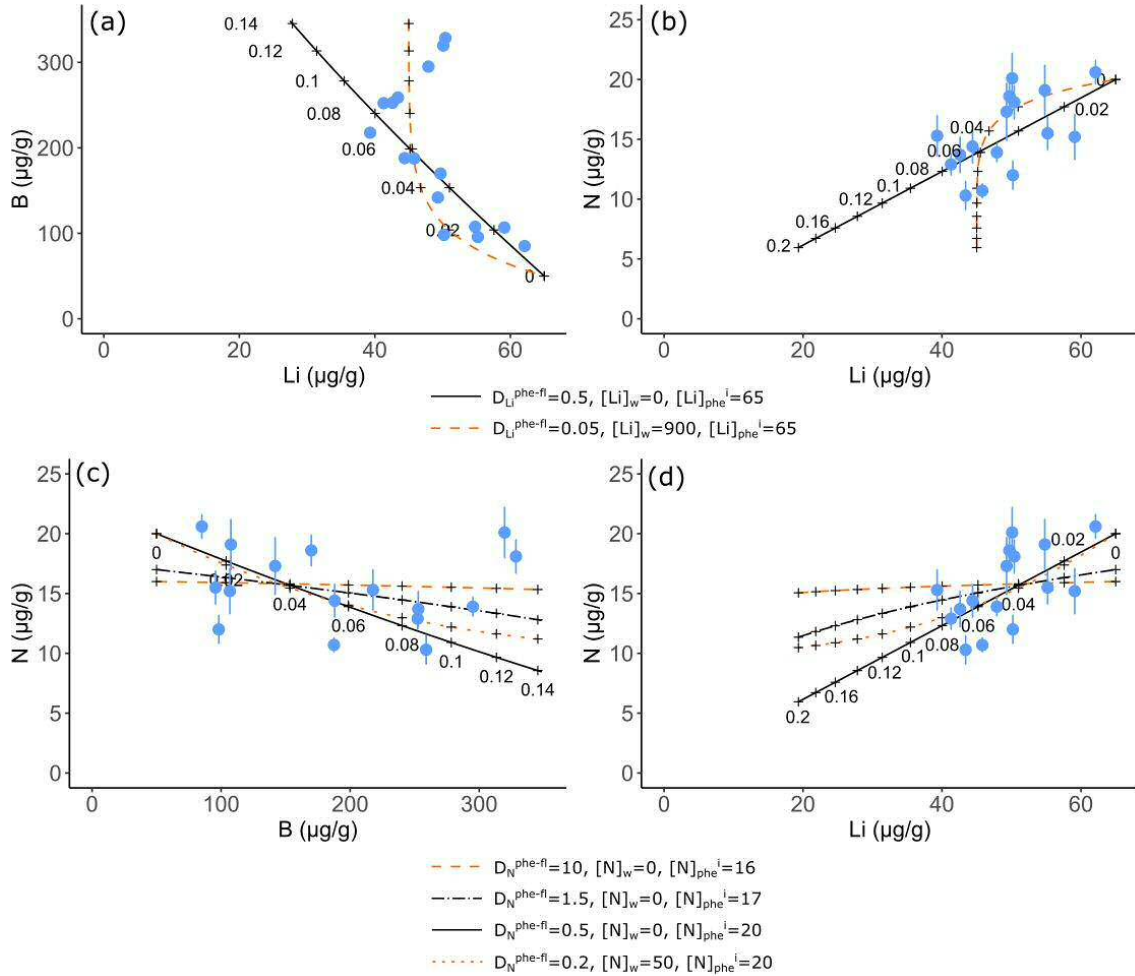


Figure 7: Fluid rock interaction modelling of phengite N-B-Li data from garnet-phengite quartzite (LC-3). Blue points are the measured data, and black lines show model outcomes for a range of different input parameters. 1s error bars are shown for N data. Error bars for B and Li are smaller than the size of the symbols. Boron input parameters were constrained from previous work (Halama et al., 2020). The top panel (a,b) shows two end member scenarios for Li modelling. The bottom panel (c,d) shows endmember scenarios for N modelling ($D_N = 10$ and $D_N = 0.2$) and two intermediate scenarios. See text for detailed explanation of modelling parameters (section 5.2).

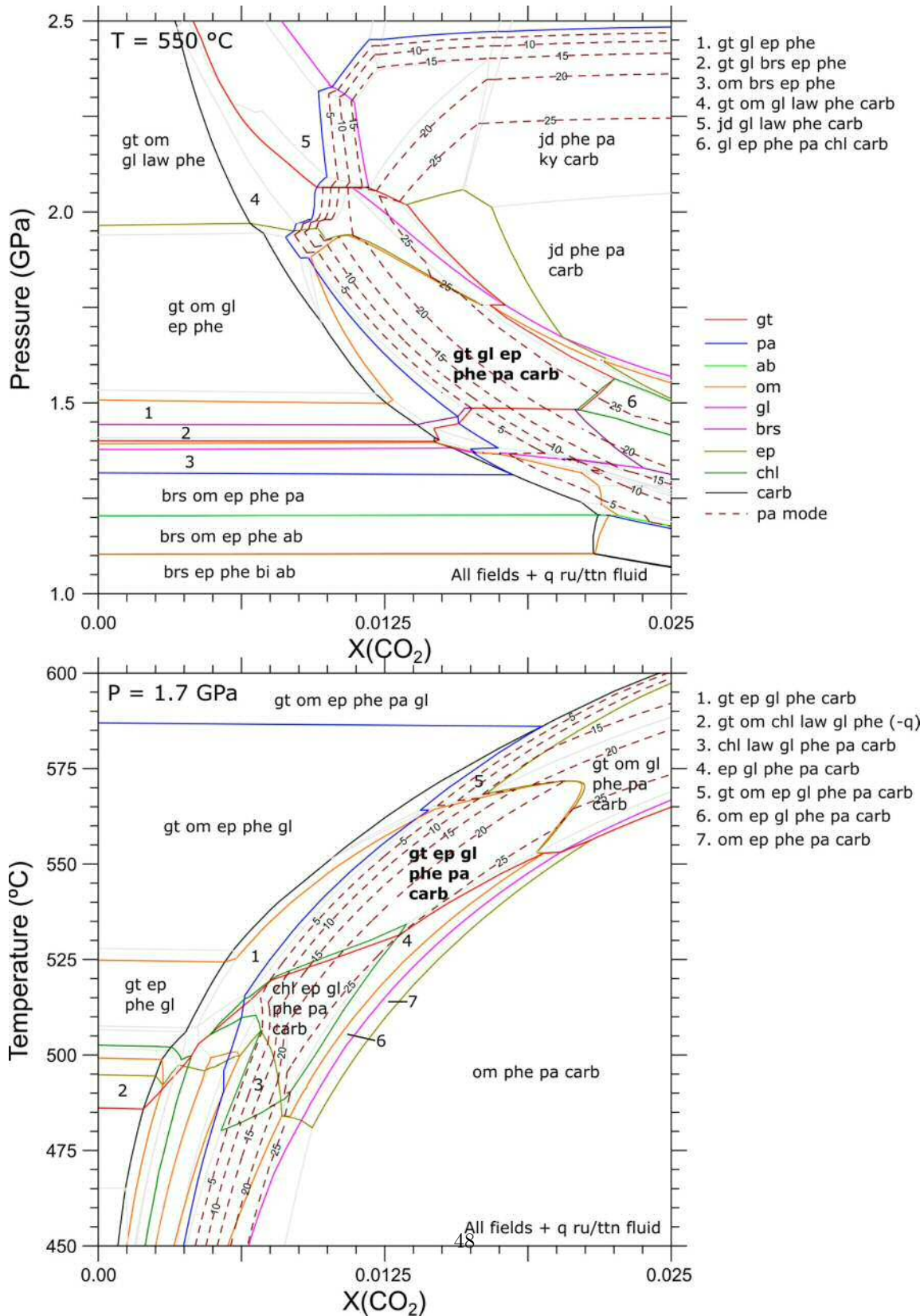


Figure 8: P-X(CO₂) and T-X(CO₂) equilibrium phase diagrams for sample SEC16-1. The observed assemblage is indicated in bold font. Gt = garnet, om = omphacite, jd = jadeite, gl = glaucophane (*sensu lato*), barroisite (*s.l.*), ep = epidote, phe = phengite, pa = paragonite, chl = chlorite, carb = carbonate, ab = albite, bi = biotite, law = lawsonite, ru = rutile, ttn = titanite.

963 **List of Tables**

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Sample	LC-3	LC-2a	LC-1b	SEC16-1	SEC44-1
Lithology	Gt-phe quartzite	Metagabbro	Eclogite	Blueschist	Eclogite
Phe mode (vol%)	33	5	5	16	8
Phe N ($\mu\text{g/g}$)	10-21 (16)	20-123 (72)	117-243 (190)	147-234 (203)	
Pa mode			5	16	
Pa N			5.5-47 (24)	31-78 (54)	
Chl mode				<1	
Chl N		1.2-4.9 (3.6)	1.2	1.0-2.8 (2.1)	
Calculated bulk N	5.1	3.6	1.2	39	16
1s	± 0.5	± 0.9	± 0.3	± 4	± 3
Measured bulk N				46	10
Sample	SEC47-1	JEN12-03	JEN12-07	JEN12-09	
Lithology	Eclogite	Blueschist	Blueschist	Eclogite	
Phe mode (vol%)	10	30	25	15	
Phe N ($\mu\text{g/g}$)	37-118 (61)	108-270 (193)	155-320 (229)	22-127 (88)	
Pa mode					
Pa N					
Chl mode		30		<1	
Chl N		10-83 (45)	57	0.0-9.2 (2.9)	
Calculated bulk N	5.6	71	57	13	
1s	± 0.9	± 10	± 6	± 2	
Measured bulk N	7.2				

Table 1: Mineral modes and N concentrations, and calculated bulk N contents for the nine samples in this study. N contents are given as a range followed by the mean in brackets. Three samples have measured bulk N contents (Halama et al., 2010), which are consistent with the calculated results. The procedure for calculating 1s uncertainties is described in Section 4.3 and the full data set is provided in the electronic supplement.

	Li	B	N	<i>n</i>
<hr/>				
SEC44-1				
Phe	19-48 (32)	38-81 (63)	147-244 (197)	10
Cpx	94-110 (104)	2.3-3.3 (2.9)	1.8-3.0 (2.4)	4
D _{phe/cpx}	0.31	22	81	
<hr/>				
SEC47-1				
Phe	38-83 (46)	50-100 (61)	37-118 (61)	11
Cpx	142	3.0	3.0	1
Ep			1-2 (1.1)	2
D _{phe/cpx}	0.32	18	22	
D _{phe/ep}			55	
<hr/>				
SEC16-1				
Phe	31-46 (37)	30-92 (59)	117-243 (190)	14
Pa	24-28 (26)	93-139 (119)	31-118 (66)	4
Gl	132-169 (151)	3.9-4.9 (4.4)	3.9-4.4 (4.1)	2
D _{phe/pa}	1.5	0.49	2.9	
D _{phe/gl}	0.25	13	46	
<hr/>				
JEN12-09				
Phe	16-42 (30)	29-64 (51)	22-127 (88)	12
Cpx	46-55 (51)	1.2-1.3 (1.3)	1.5-1.9 (1.7)	2
D _{phe/cpx}	0.60	41	52	

Table 2: Inter-mineral partition coefficients for Li, B and N. Mineral compositions are given in µg/g as a range with a mean value in brackets. The number of analyses (*n*) is also listed. Partition coefficients are calculated from the mean values.

	P (GPa)	T (°C)	$D^{\text{phe-fl}}$	$D^{\text{bi-fl}}$	$D^{\text{bi-phe}}$
Förster et al. (2019)	2	750	10		
Förster et al. (2019) *	3	800–1000	0.5–1.1	0.2–1.6	1.5–3.1
Pöter et al. (2004)	0.4	400–600	0.12–0.15		3.5
Pöter et al. (2004)	1.5	400–600	0.19–0.20		
Jackson et al. (2021) *	0.2–2.3	725–925		0.01–0.4	
Moine et al. (1994)	0.2	550		~0.5	
Homma and Itihara (1981) **	~ 0.4	~ 700			1.5–3.1
Duit et al. (1986) **	~ 0.5	500–700			2.2–4.2
Busigny et al. (2004) **					2.6–3.3

Table 3: Summary of available partitioning data for nitrogen between aqueous fluid and micas (phengite and biotite). Most data are from subsolidus experiments but data indicated with a * are from suprasolidus experiments. Some natural data on biotite-phengite partitioning are also included (**).

Figure 2

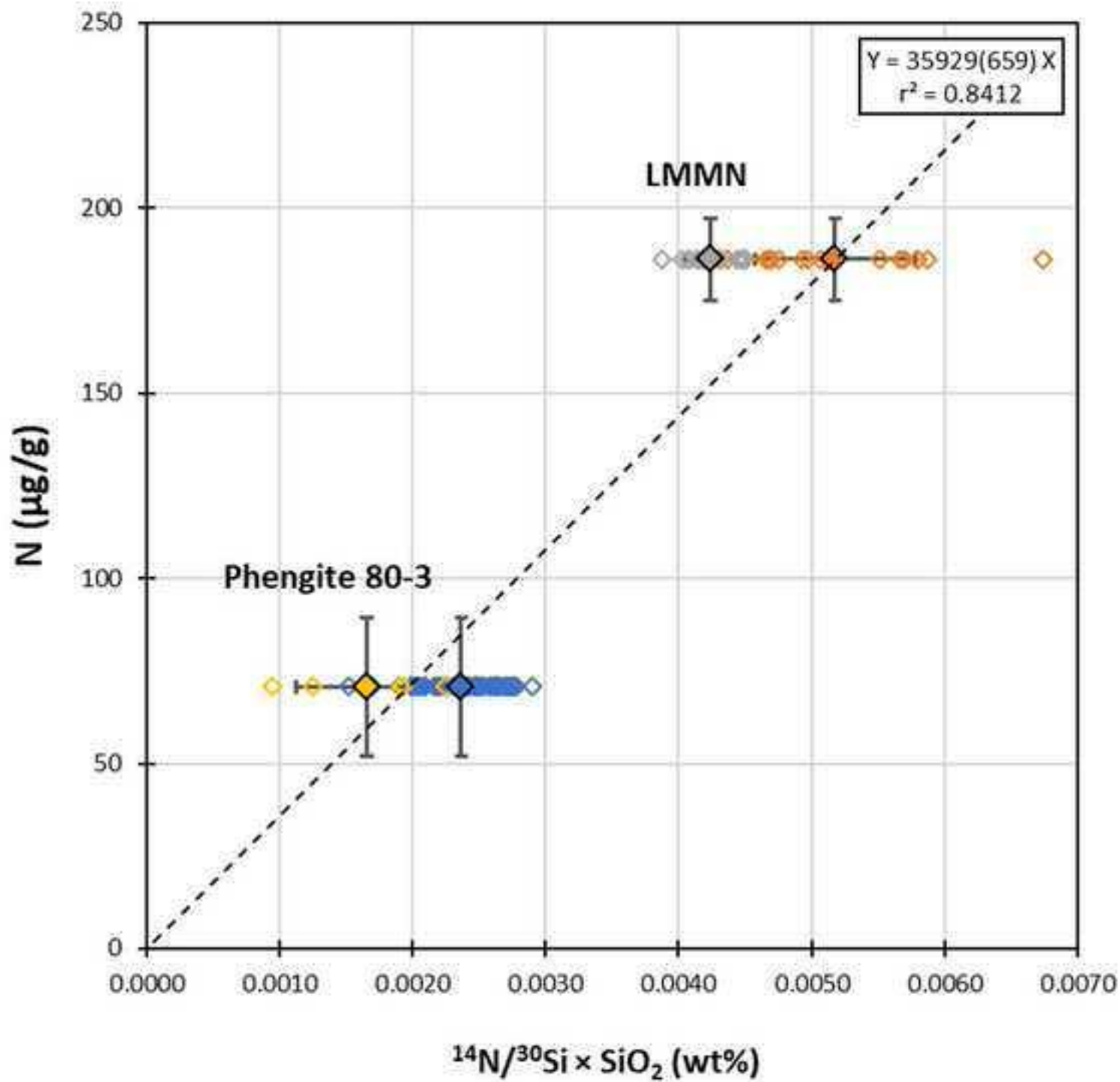
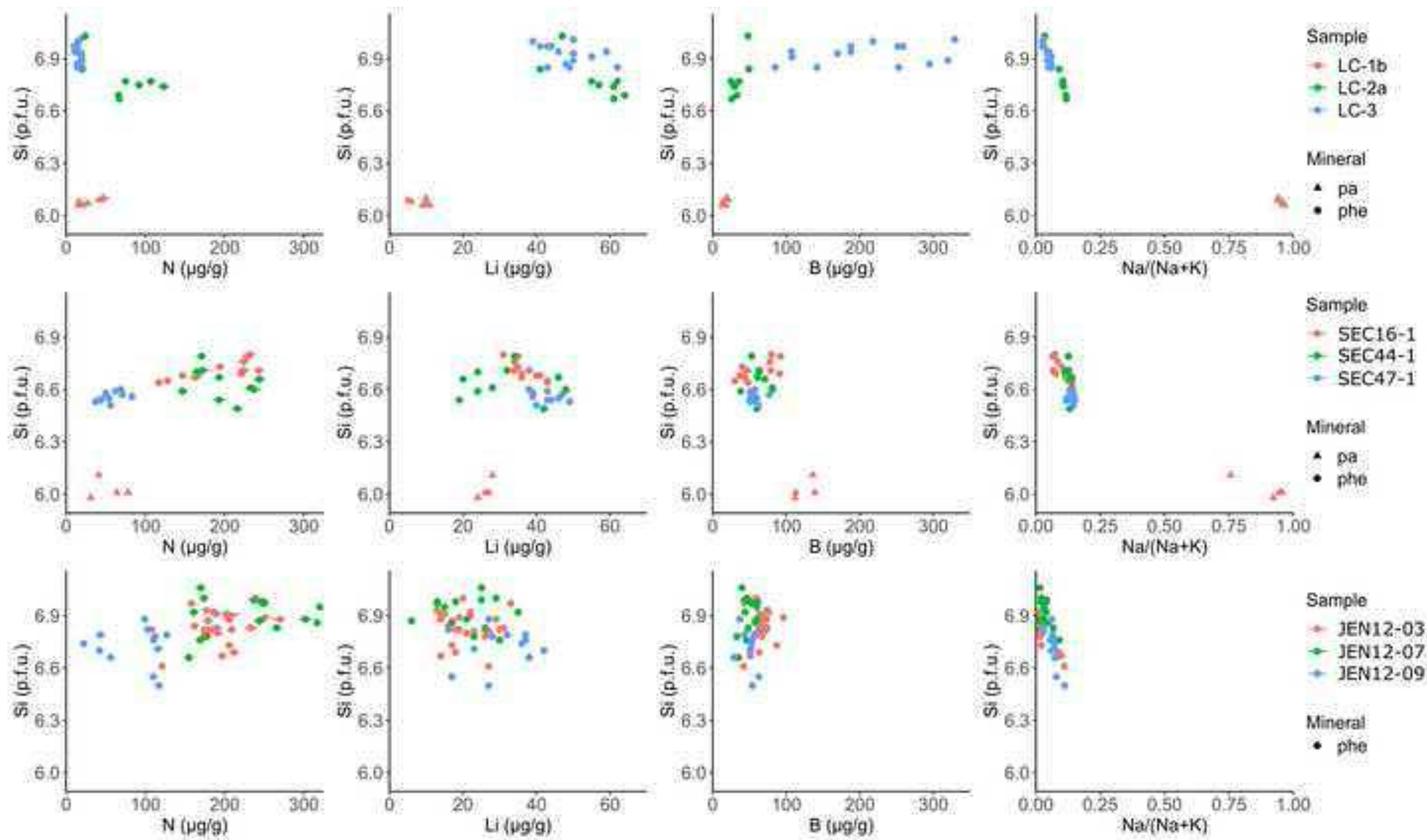
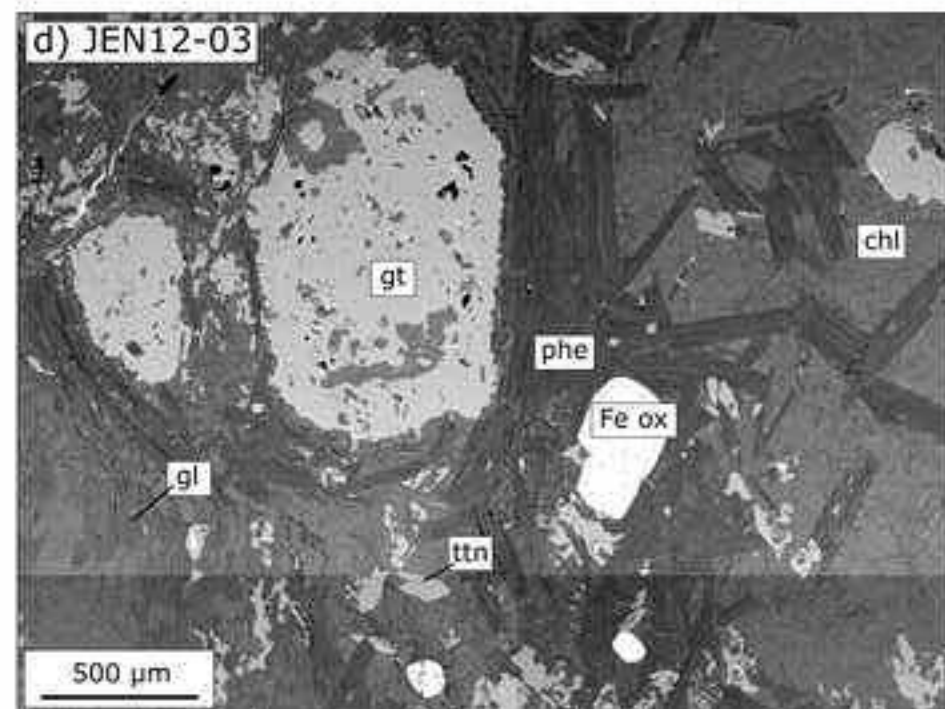
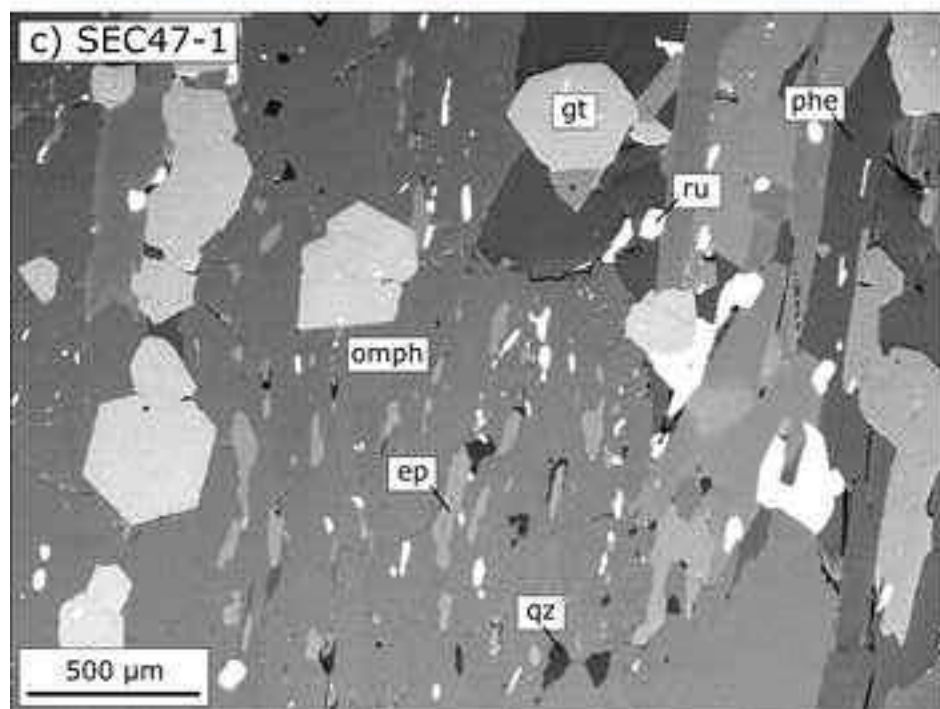
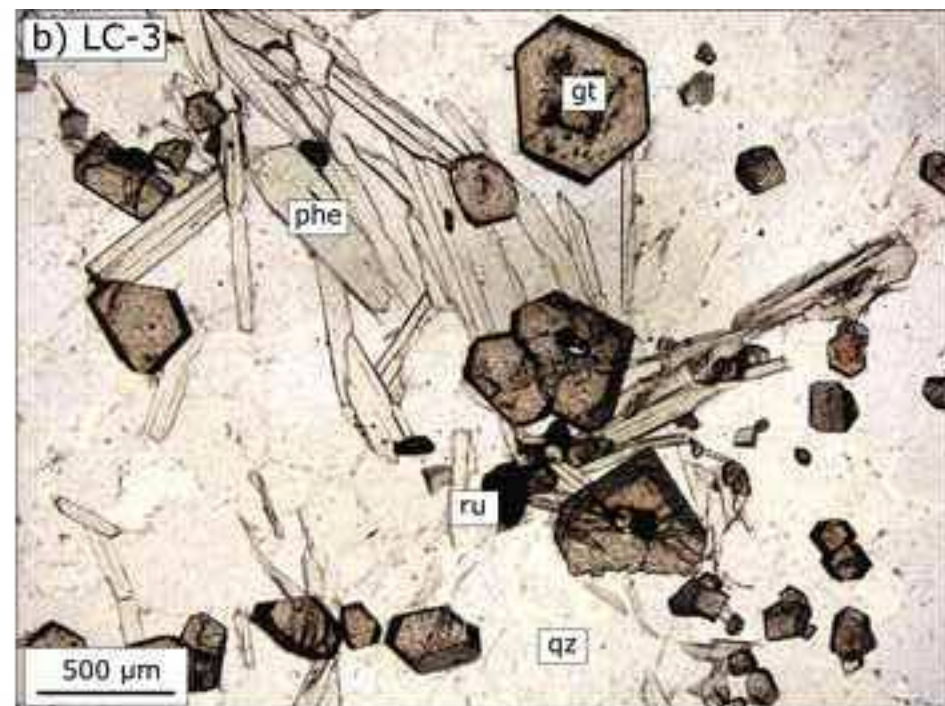
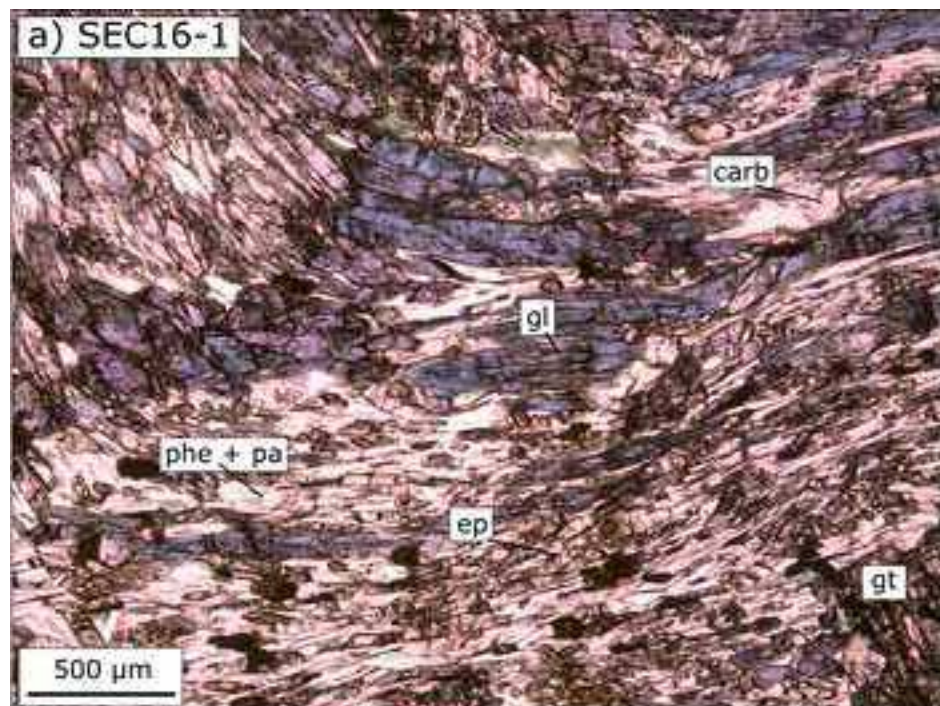
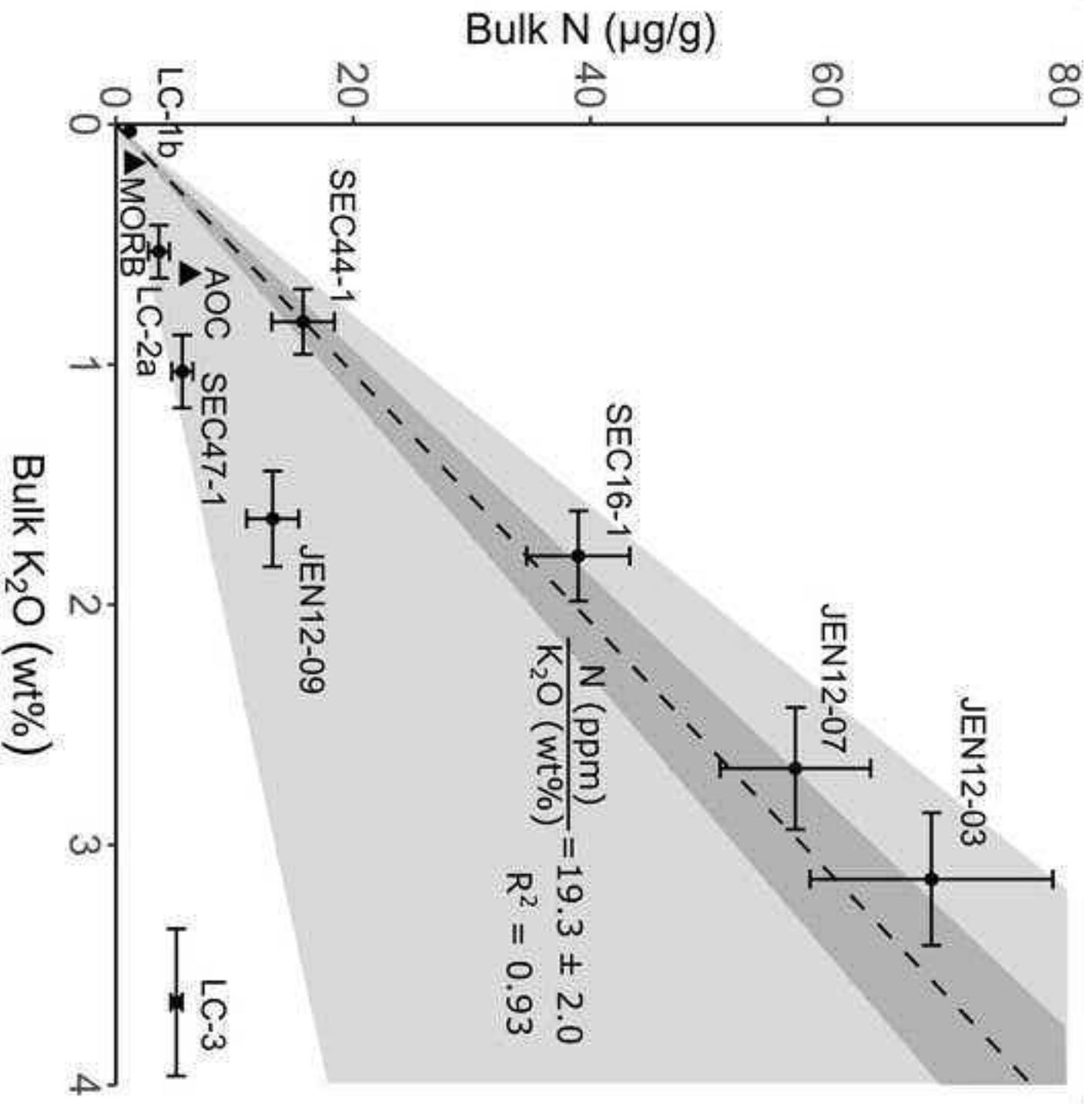


Figure 3







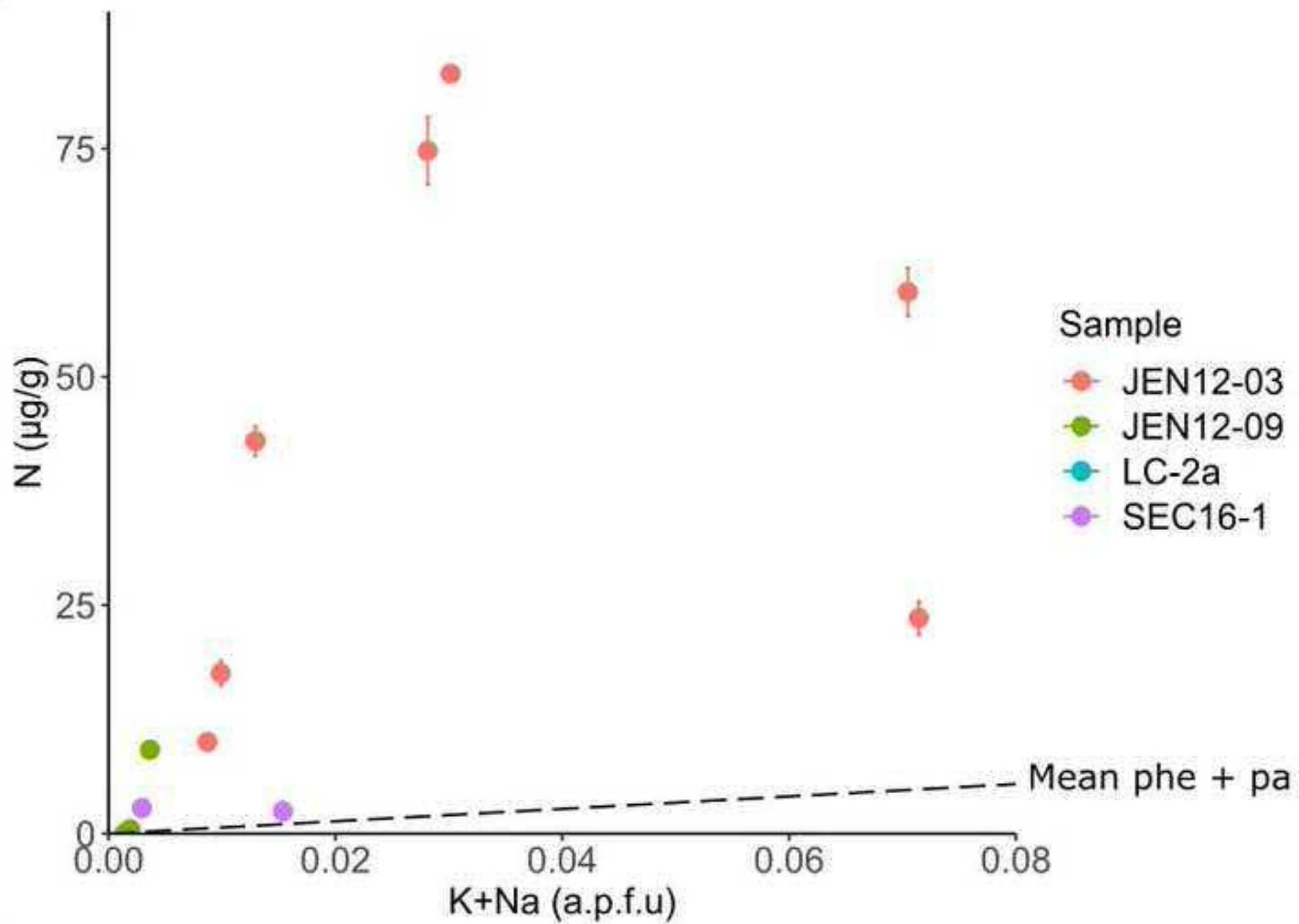
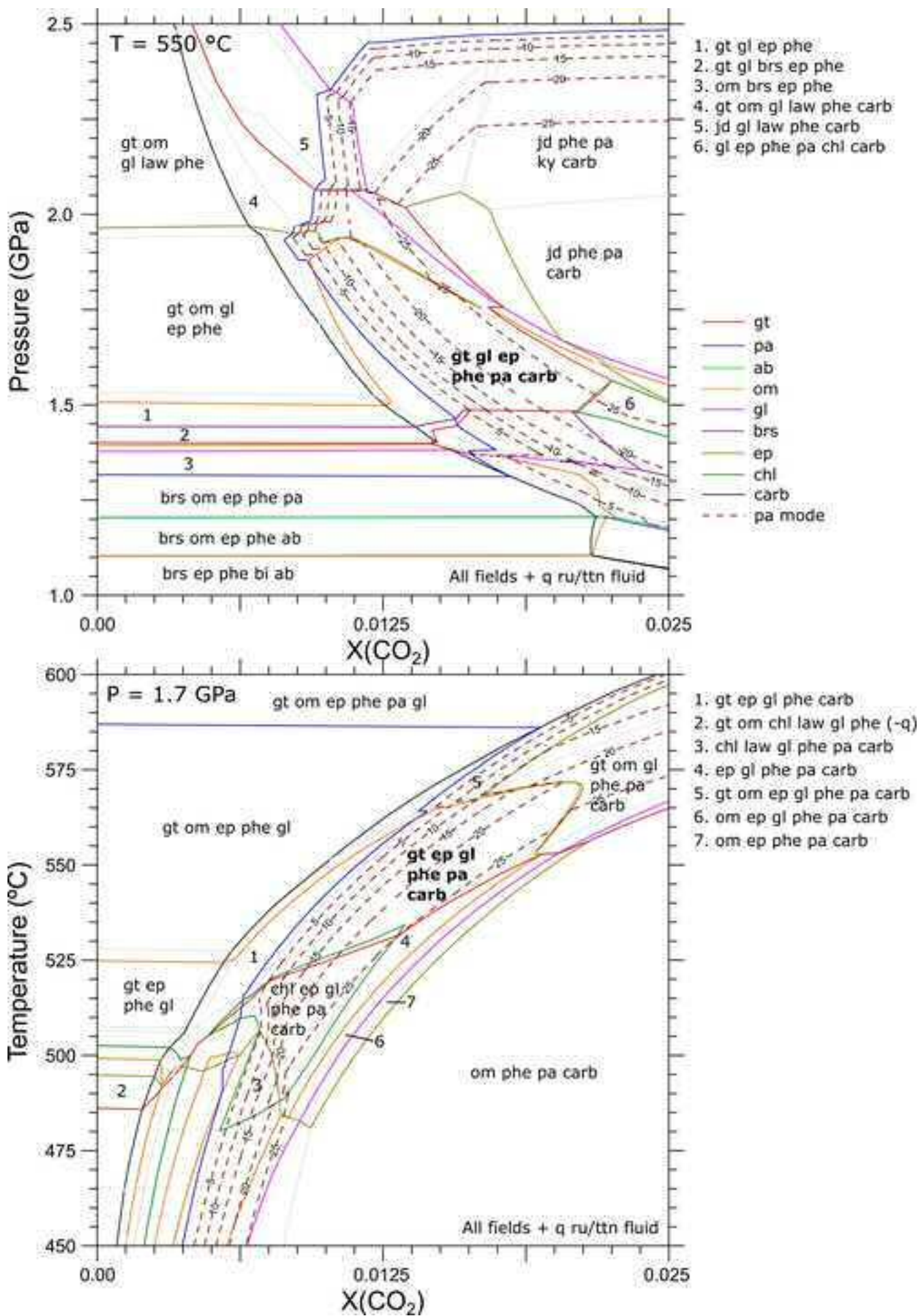
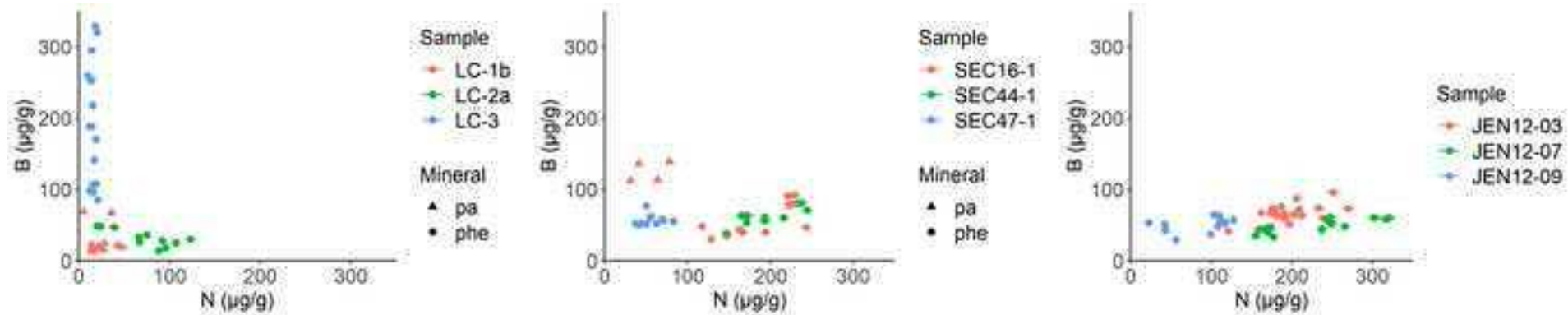
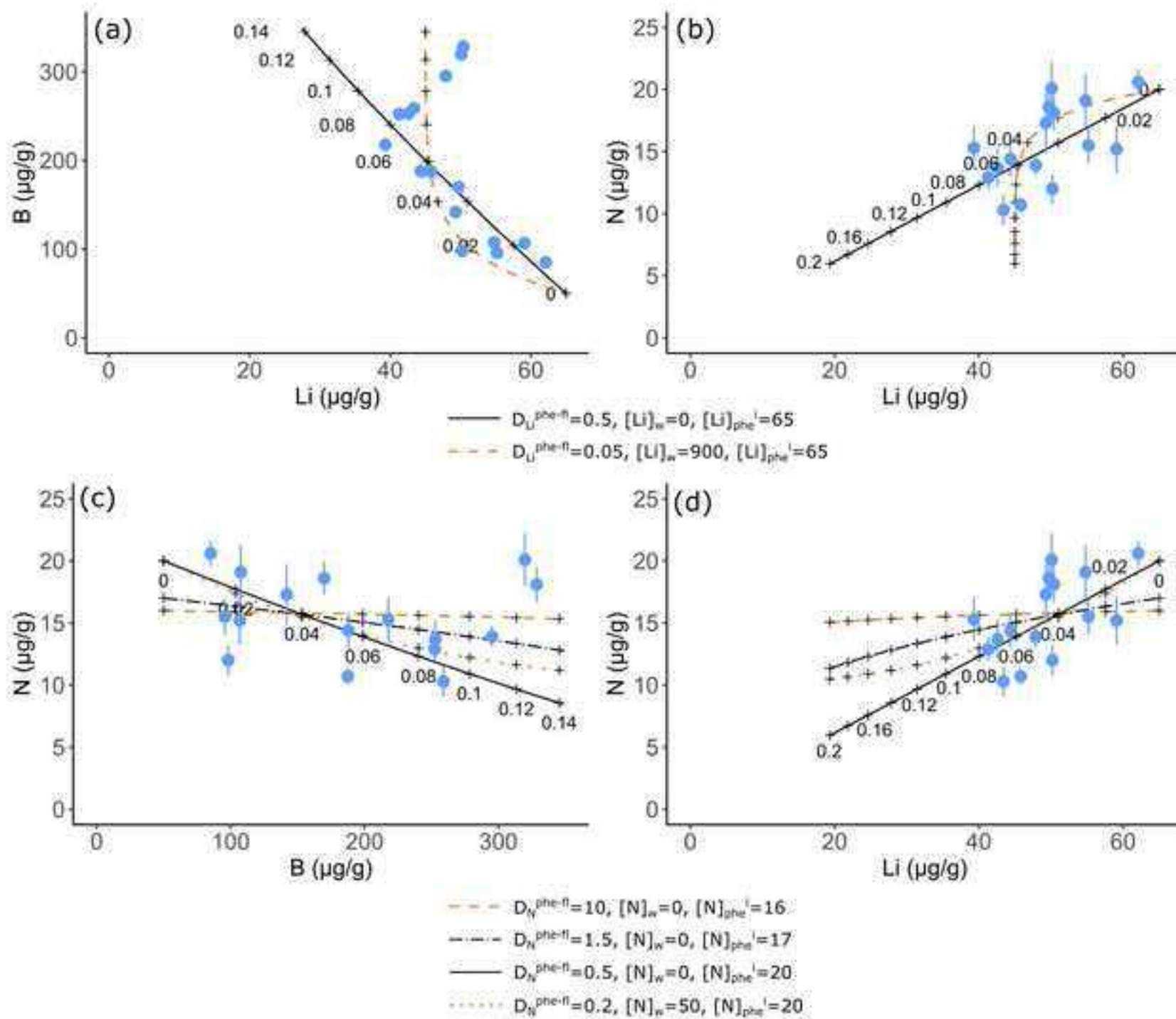
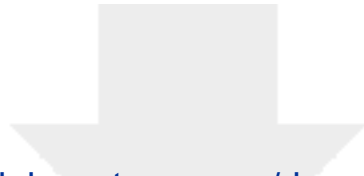


Figure 8









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EPMA and SIMS data revised.xlsx

